

EUROPEAN NEWS

Union board members enrage Renault chairman

OUR PARIS STAFF

GEORGE BESSE, the chairman of Renault, the troubled French car group, has become embroiled in a bitter feud with the pro-Communist CGT union members who sit on the state-owned company's board. Trying to conduct his sweeping restructuring programme as discreetly as possible, he has been incensed by repeated leaks of company policies by the three CGT board members.

The last straw came when they told the Press that Renault planned to advance a \$150m subordinated loan to American Motors, in which it has a 45 per cent stake. This week, they enraged M Besse by suggesting that Renault was planning to mortgage some of its plants.

The chairman, known for his quick temper, has issued a formal warning to the CGT board members. By law state companies must have union representatives on the board. At Renault's the representatives of the CPDT (pro-socialist) union, the reformist FO union and the CGC union group middle management. Although these are privy to all board decisions and proposals, they are also supposed to be bound by the same restrictions and obligations as other board members.

M Besse feels that the CGT representatives have overstepped their privileges by improperly disclosing confidential information. He is understood to have asked aides to see if union board members can be removed for breach of board regulations.

But the dispute is more than a feud between the new Renault chairman and the CGT representatives. It raises the complicated issue of the limits and role of union participation on the board of nationalised companies.

For their part, the CGT and the Communists are now clearly attempting to use the difficulties of Renault to try to mobilise a demoralised rank and file in a more general protest against the Socialist Government's industrial restructuring policies. Renault has long been the main symbol of nationalised industry in France.

W. German company 'not paying protection'

By Rupert Cornwell in Bonn

MANNESMANN, the West German steel and engineering concern, yesterday denied reports from Colombia that it was paying "protection money" to guerrilla groups operating in the north east of the country, where it is working on a DM 600m (£157m) oil pipeline project.

A spokesman in Düsseldorf also made clear, in contradiction to the reports, that it had not been notified by the Bogota authorities that two executives of Mannesmann Anlagenbau, the company's plant engineering subsidiary constructing the pipeline, were to be expelled from Colombia.

The expulsions have been sought apparently by the Colombian national security council. Mannesmann had been paying DM 600,000 (£150,000) protection money every month to the pro-Chau National Liberation Army (NLA) underground organisation, which operates close to the Venezuelan border, where the project is sited.

In Düsseldorf, the spokesman for Mannesmann admitted only that the company had given "humanitarian help" to the local population, which had been distributed by PATSO, a group run by priests.

The 300 km pipeline will carry oil from a recently discovered field in the Cano Limon region close to Venezuela, which in turn will contribute to the emergence of Colombia as a net exporter of oil.

Mannesmann won the contract last summer, and work began in late 1984, carried out by a consortium including the British-based International Engineering Group. Last October, a Mannesmann engineer was kidnapped by the NLA, to be released three months later.

The report from Colombia claim that other foreign companies have paid money to the NLA, including Occidental Petroleum of the U.S.

Planned tax cuts of DM 12.5bn (£3.1bn) should help the West German economy expand by 3 per cent next year compared with expectations of 2.5 per cent growth this year, according to the HWFA economic research institute in Hamburg, Reuter reports.

Portugal charts new course for fisheries

By Diana Smith in Lisbon

A BIG operation is under way to modernise Portugal's antiquated fishing fleet, adapt it to modern methods, and more productive methods, clean up parasitic and corrupt fish marketing circuits, and generally force Europe's least efficient fishing sector into the 20th century.

Tapping the funds and technical assistance that membership of the European Community will bring, the Portuguese authorities plan to use the 10-year transition period granted by the EEC to protect national waters—which cover almost a third of the North Atlantic when the Azores and Madeira zones are included—to build up a fleet and infrastructure that have suffered for generations from lack of investment, management, capacity, and rational use of resources.

Portugal strove during the negotiations for EEC entry to protect its waters against high-powered efficient Spanish fleets. This was achieved through a strict licensing system. Now it is setting out to protect waters against crude traditional domestic fishing that has depleted spawning grounds and poorly served a fish-eating nation.

Sr Almeida Serra, the Maritime Minister, and Sr Carlos Pimenta, Secretary of State for Fishing, have drawn up plans for a new fishing strategy, which will take steps that will funnel substantial EEC aid and loans into the sector.

They insist that only viable projects can qualify for investment funds—a departure from past attitudes.

By next year, the first of Portugal's EEC accession, EEC 1.5bn (£36m) will be available for modernisation and infrastructure projects. These include construction of better vessels, port improvements (Portugal is badly lacking in cold storage facilities for fish), data processing, and necessary super-sea compliance (catch quotas), training schools and scholarships abroad for researchers. This is three times the sum available this year.

Marked structural change in the industry is being planned. Wealthy middlemen have paid rock-bottom prices to fishermen, taken large profits and passed on high prices to the consumer. The Maritime Ministry will solicit the help of the housewife in this battle, helping people understand that there is no real economic reason for the luxury prices they are paying for the most modest species of fish.

Fishing will be able to tap some of the Ecu 400m (£220m) annual European Investment Bank loans and the Ecu 635m (£350m) aid to which Portugal will have access. The state will have to match the funds at an average ratio of half and half—meaning that, next year, Portugal will have some Ecu 2bn to apply to its most backward sectors in which agriculture and fishing head the list.

To help control national waters, about £40m will be invested over the next seven years to create a patrol fleet with the co-operation of the navy. To supervise the 12-mile and 200-mile zones, the Portuguese negotiated a fishing agreement with the EEC and Spain that ensures tightly-regulated catches, they are not prepared to leave anything to chance.

Mine owner arrested over dam collapse

By Alan Friedman in Milan

ITALIAN authorities yesterday arrested an owner of the mine whose dam in the village of Stava in the Dolomites collapsed last Friday, killing more than 200 tourists and villagers.

Sig Giulio Rota is one of two brothers who own Prealp Mineraria, the mine which used the dam to hold fluoride waste. Sig Rota was charged by local prosecutors with involuntary manslaughter.

Meanwhile, two local Christian Democrat councillors yesterday resigned from office after receiving judicial communications that they are under investigation in connection with the tragedy.

Among the persons to whom judicial notices have already been issued are the mayor of nearby Tesero, Sig Adriano Jellic, a Christian Democrat.

Paul Betts talks to the French Finance and Economic Minister Berezgoy pats himself on the back

M PIERRE BEREZGOY goes home every night with a headache. But it is not because of problems with the French economy or the franc. The trouble is that the Finance and Economy Minister's imposing office in the Louvre was not built for summer heatwaves.

Despite his daily headache, the largely self-taught Socialist son of a Ukrainian worker cannot help looking satisfied with the recent performance of the French economy. While the Socialists are already widely tipped as losers in the general election, the economy has recently produced a string of encouraging figures.

The balance of payments current account deficit was sharply lowered in the first half of the year to FF9.5bn (£565m) from FF10.1bn (£606m) in the same period last year. June produced a trade surplus and, if the dollar continues to fall, M Berezgoy expects the trade deficit this year to be about half of last year's.

"The trade deficit is expected to be in the range of FF9.5bn-FF10.5bn. If the dollar is at around FF8.50, the deficit should be about FF9.10bn and we should have a serious current account surplus this year," says M Berezgoy.

The first half of this year confirmed the general recovery, although M Berezgoy acknowledges the task was made more difficult by the strong dollar. The second half should reflect the benefits of the recent income and corporate tax cuts, as well as the lower dollar (it was trading at FF8.70 in Paris yesterday) if its present decline is confirmed.

M Berezgoy is also pleased with the way the European Monetary System realignment was carried out at the weekend. "I think the first operation went very well," he says, adding that

the franc also came out of it well. He admits that the Patronat, the French employers' federation, and number of other parties would have liked a small devaluation of the franc. "But I refused any devaluation of the franc and am absolutely opposed to it."

M Berezgoy rejects the argument that a franc devaluation is inevitable because of the inflation differential between France and West Germany, the country's main trading partner.

"The trade deficit with West Germany is essentially a structural problem," he says. France for years has had a trade deficit with Bonn, with French

imports of German capital goods not covered by exports of French consumer goods to West Germany.

"If you compare the franc with the currencies of other French trading partners, the situation of our currency is not so bad."

"My top priority remains the fight against inflation and I am therefore very hostile towards measures and introduced new financial instruments such as certificates of deposit. He is now discussing with the bourse the introduction next autumn of commercial paper."

But if M Berezgoy is gratified by the present performance of the economy and the franc, he is still worried. "We have two black points: low growth and high unemployment."

Prime Minister, have put together one of the most rigorous public spending budgets in post-war French history, involving a real cut in public spending next year, reductions in state financial support to nationalised industries, and several thousand job cuts in the public sector.

M Berezgoy does not like his budget described as "draconian" but simply as rigorous, and says he would have liked to be even tougher on the spending.

He also sees himself as a champion of competition and economic liberalism, and so has pressed for an acceleration in the liberalisation of industrial prices in France. After the lifting of controls on petrol and

growth of gross domestic product will be as low as 0.8 per cent this year. The most optimistic growth forecast for 1985 ranges between 1 per cent—1.5 per cent.

While unemployment has stabilised at an annual rate of 10.2 per cent, the figures are distorted by the Government's recent community work and youth employment measures.

M Berezgoy has campaigned relentlessly for lower interest rates to encourage some additional economic activity and a recovery in industrial investment. With the Banque de France cutting its money market intervention rate several times in past months, interest rates in general have slowly declined.

Another big worry is how to maintain the tentative investment recovery in France. Industrial investment, recorded last year, rising 9.2 per cent in volume after three consecutive years of decline, but all other sectors of economic activity saw investments fall in 1984.

Industrial investments are not expected to increase by about 5 per cent this year while there are some signs of a pick-up in other sectors. "The main question is whether the investment recovery will be hit by the political timetable of the elections," says M Berezgoy.

It is, essentially, a psychological problem. M Berezgoy hopes to maintain the investment momentum by further cuts in interest rates and by fiscal incentives. In the Government's tough public spending budget for 1986, there will also be a 3 per cent cut in personal income tax and a fiscal measure to stimulate investment.

This involves tax deductions for businesses which reinvest part of their profits in productive investments.

But M Berezgoy insists that



The heat is on: Pierre Berezgoy is confident that the 1986 election result is not a foregone conclusion

the Government is not providing any budget hand-outs as the imminent elections approach. Public spending cuts will hit most areas of Government except a few priority sectors such as law and order, education and training, research and defence.

Apert from mthese, the Government is accelerating the restructuring programmes still outstanding in a number of key industries. The unions are up in arms over the decision to close another steel plant this week and make 2,000 additional job cuts in the steel sector.

Additional job cuts involving about 900 people have also been announced recently in the troubled shipbuilding industry. But even with Renault, the loss-making state car group involved

in a huge restructuring programme, the government does not seem worried about union backlash.

Indeed, the Government has succeeded in both holding down wage demands and getting a series of very sizeable restructurings and job cuts past a demoralised and worried working rank and file.

M Berezgoy believes the Government will be judged on its general performance next year's elections. "I think we are on the right track."

Poland's industrial output rises by 2%

BY CHRISTOPHER BOBINSKI IN WARSAW

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT grew by 2 per cent in Poland in the first half of the year, exactly half the target for the entire year, figures published by the Government's statistical office show.

They also reveal that foreign trade is lagging behind expectations and strong pressure on wages continues, producing a 5 per cent rise, much higher than the planned increase.

Parliament yesterday approved a 3.5 per cent annual national income growth target for the 1986 to 1990 plan. An attempt will be made to hold down the growth in consumption for the first three years of the period, and then, in anticipation of growing popular impatience, increase the rate somewhat during the remaining two years.

At the end of the decade the inflation rate, which was around 14 per cent for the first six months of this year, is expected to be between 6 and 8 per cent. Despite government planners' preference for capital intensive,

centrally financed investment, Parliament has stressed that finance should also be provided for individual companies to modernise.

The planners are aiming to devote more resources to capital investment up until 1990, but this is likely to clash with continuing pressure on wages as demonstrated in the first six months.

Despite the 5 per cent growth in real incomes, the actual volume of sales in the shops grew by 2 per cent. Much of the extra cash being paid out as wages went to fuel the flourishing black market or flowed into swelling savings accounts. Productivity growth is still lagging behind real wage increases.

In Poland's hard currency trade, exports grew by under 1 per cent to reach \$2.5bn during the six months. Imports rose by 9.5 per cent to reach \$2.2bn. The resulting \$590m surplus compares with \$780m in the first six months of last year.

European TV groups get together

By Raymond Snoddy

SIX EUROPEAN television organisations, including Channel 4 of Britain, have set up an association to co-ordinate their efforts in Europe and the world market.

They intend to spend a total of Ecu 70m (£39m) to produce 100 hours of drama over the next three years. The plan is seen as a practical commercial alternative to EEC Commission suggestions that a European Film Fund be set up to stimulate European production and employment and turn the tide of "U.S. media imperialism."

The association, the first of its kind, is likely to receive the blessing of the British Government which has been keen to the idea of contributing to such a fund.

The aim is to create high quality programmes at a fraction of what it would cost individual television organisations.

The six members of the association, apart from Channel 4, are: Antenne 2 (France), ORF (Austria) RAI (Italy), SRG/SSR (Switzerland) and ZDF (West Germany).

A programme committee will meet in September in Paris to decide on projects. Recommendations will go to a management board comprising the chairmen, directors-general or managing directors of all six organisations at a meeting in Vienna the following month.

But an idea has been accepted each member organisation will be free to decide whether to invest. Each project will be made by one of the six partners, often in more than one language.

Mr Jeremy Isaacs, chief executive of Channel 4, said yesterday: "We look forward to taking part in this bold experiment with our European partners. The talent is there. The test will be to work together to take work to all our screens."

The association has its origins in a successful collaboration between Channel 4 and Antenne 2 on the making of a film drama "Les Louvres" using bilingual actors. The cost to each organisation was 60 per cent of what it would have cost to make alone.

The initiative attracted the attention of the French Government, and Mr Justin Dukes, the Channel 4 managing director, was summoned to the Elysee Palace for discussions.

Most Opec nations likely to lower prices

BY RICHARD JOHNS IN GENEVA

A MAJORITY of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) looked almost certain last night to agree a compromise, under which the official selling rates for heavy crudes will be lowered by 50 cents a barrel and those in the medium range by 20 cents.

This would mean a price for Arabian heavy 27 degrees API crudes of \$28 cut from \$28.50, and that of 31 degrees API Arabian medium of \$27.20 down from \$27.40.

Algeria still rejects out of hand any revision of price differentials. Its chief delegate, Mr Belkacem, has been instructed to concede nothing on this score, but his belligerent performance here, following an exasperating one in Vienna earlier this month, has angered mainstream members, not the least Saudi Arabia.

Libya and Iran will probably dissociate themselves from the readjustment of differentials

which, anyway, is seen as only an interim measure before another ministerial meeting in mid-September.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's oil marketing arm, Norbec, is understood to have chartered three Ultra Large Crude Carriers and two Very Large Crude Carriers for storage purposes.

The aim would be to maintain oil output at a sufficient level to provide enough associated gas for the Kingdom's industries.

The 50-cent cut in prospect is unlikely to boost Saudi Arabia's flagging production in the near future unless some special deal is struck with the four U.S. major oil companies which are partners in the operations of the Arabian American Oil Company. Saudi Arabia is believed to have stocks of about 3m barrels in floating storage ready for marketing.

More reassuring for Opec as a whole and the Gulf producers in particular is reliable information that nine other large crude carriers have been chartered to pick up oil from the Sirri terminal presently out of range of Iraqi missile attacks, and four for voyages from the Gulf to Japan. None though has been secured by the four U.S. partners in Aramco—Exxon, Shell, Texaco and Mobil.

The charters suggest there could be a temporary boost in demand for Opec crude following a period during which the market has stood back partly for seasonal reasons but also in anticipation of a further price slide.

Dr Tam David-West, Nigeria's Oil Minister, indicated yesterday evening that the view in prospect would be acceptable to Lagos. In practice Nigeria, with the acquiescence of most other Opec members, has been allowed a dispensation, with an official selling rate of \$28.60 for its top light varieties which

is lower than rates for comparable crudes of other members. Barrier deals apart, it appears to have been observing official selling rates in its transactions and output has fallen below quota.

Venezuela seems to have decided that it can accept only a limited fall in the price of Arabian 27 degree API gravity heavy crude and for Arabian medium. It can do so because it has a big range of crudes of less than 20 degrees gravity.

Those fall outside Opec pricing rules but can yield a fairly high proportion of light and medium distillates if processed in refineries with modern "cracking" capacity.

Mr Nabli's reluctance apart, yesterday morning's discussions on differentials were generally regarded as a constructive exercise. There seemed to be a greater realisation that differentials must be reviewed and, if necessary, revised in a regular and frequent basis.

Brussels seeks to boost university-industry links

BY IVO DAWNAY IN BRUSSELS

AN ATTEMPT to develop closer links between universities and industry was launched by the European Commission yesterday.

The scheme, dubbed the Community action programme in Education and Training for Technology (Comett), is aimed at better accommodating the academic world to the needs of commercial technology.

Outlining the programme yesterday, Mr Peter Sutherland, the Social Affairs Commissioner, compared European tertiary education unfavourably with that of the U.S. in its ability to supply useful graduates to industry.

"The linkage between third level education and industry needs to be greatly increased to improve the efficiency of European industry," he said.

But the Comett programme is also aimed at developing cultural links between EEC member states. Mr Sutherland pointed out that less than 1 per cent of Community students had any experience of study abroad.

The Comett programme, presiding it is approved by the Council of Ministers, will be carried out in two stages. A launch period of four years, starting in 1986, and costing

about Ecu 80m (£44m) to establish the project, followed by a consolidation phase, as yet uncosted until 1992.

The outline programme includes:

● Setting up University-Industry Training Partnerships (UITPs) to liaise with existing national schemes to develop international co-operative projects. The target is to create 150 UITPs by 1989, overseen by a full-time liaison officer.

● Creation of grants for exchanges for students and industrial and academic personnel.

● Joint training projects run by universities and industry concentrating on areas and topics where skill shortages are inhibiting development and economic growth.

● Efforts to develop joint projects for the teaching of trainers employed by industry, with financing of up to 50 per cent of the cost to a ceiling of Ecu 400,000. A European Technological Open University is also under discussion.

● The entire project to be backed by intensive monitoring, the establishment of a shared data base, and other techniques.

Denmark has DKr 1.25bn trade surplus

By Our Copenhagen Correspondent

DENMARK'S first foreign trade surplus of the year has failed to allay fears about the state of the country's balance of payments. The provisional trade surplus was DKr 1.25bn (£93m) in June, compared with a revised DKr 1.55bn shortfall in May, and a DKr 89m deficit in June last year.

The figures, released by the National Statistics Bureau yesterday, gave a provisional Danish trade deficit of DKr 6.07bn for the first half of 1985.

The June surplus was attributed to an improved DKr 17.5bn export performance, largely sales of ships.

Papandreou and Zhivkov condemn space weapons

BY ANDRIANA TERODIACONOU IN ATHENS

MR ANDREAS Papandreou, Greece's Prime Minister, joined visiting President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria yesterday in condemning the militarisation of space, and in calling for continued efforts to create a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

"Small non-nuclear states have not only a right but a duty to participate in the struggle to promote peace and to prevent the militarisation of space," Mr Papandreou said, echoing a similar statement by Mr Zhivkov at a joint press conference.

They were speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Athens by the Bulgarian President for political and trade talks.

Maltese leader seeks better ties with Italy

By Godfrey Grima in Valletta

DR CARMELO Mifsud Bonnici, Malta's new Prime Minister, has called for a swift and early restoration of ties with Italy.

He said, while inaugurating a government skills centre with the help of the Italian Government, that both countries must display increased confidence in each other to iron out their differences.

Dr Mifsud Bonnici's call came while two Maltese Government ministers were in Rome for talks with Italian Government leaders.

Since taking over power in December from Mr Dom Mintoff, Dr Mifsud Bonnici has launched various diplomatic initiatives to mend the island's relationship with Italy.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Israel abandons plan to cut public sector pay by 3%

BY DAVID LENNON IN TEL AVIV

THE ISRAELI CABINET yesterday abandoned its attempt to cut public sector wages by 3 per cent, which had been one of the key elements in the austerity programme announced at the beginning of the month.

At the same time, the Cabinet ruled that dismissal notices would be sent today to 3 per cent of the workers in the public sector. It would endeavour to cut a further 3 per cent through efficiency dismissals.

Mr Yitzhak Mordechai, the Finance Minister, expressed considerable reservations about the Cabinet decision on pay and redundancies. He said this would make it more difficult to achieve the goals set out in the economic programme.

The Government has apparently agreed to carry out the dismissals in co-operation with the unions, and not by emergency decree as originally proposed.

The Histadrut trade union federation, which fought tenaciously for the same pay rises for public and private sector

workers, cautiously welcomed the Government's decision last night.

The public sector workers will now receive the same 14 per cent pay rise next month as employees in the private sector.

● The Israeli economy is in recession, according to the Bank of Israel, and this is expected to deepen in the coming months as a result of the Government's new austerity programme.

A survey of company activity in the second quarter of the year revealed that following the easing of last autumn's recession in the early months of this year, there has been a renewed slowdown. Output and sales in all branches of industry have declined, the survey found.

Orders for the domestic economy have fallen and in the second quarter there are signs of increasing financial difficulties.

The central bank forecasts a continuation or deepening of the recession and a growth in unemployment in the coming months.

'Dissident' arrested in Nkomo's home

ZIMBABWE police have seized several guns used by Mr Joshua Nkomo's bodyguards to investigate "certain crimes" that the authorities believe may have been committed by members of his opposition party, Tony Hawkins reports from Harare.

This announcement, made by the acting Police Commissioner yesterday, was swiftly followed by a Parliamentary statement from the Minister responsible for Security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, that police had subsequently arrested a "dissident" in Mr Nkomo's home in Bulawayo.

Mr Mnangagwa told MPs that Mr Nkomo had been present when the arrest was made but had had nothing to say. The Zimbabwe Government claims that the so-called dissidents operating in the south west of the country against the security forces, are part of Mr Nkomo's Opposition and that he and his colleagues are behind the insurgency campaign.

NZ investigate couple

New Zealand police were still investigating the identities of two people charged yesterday with arson and murder following the bombing of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior, reports Dan Haywood in Wellington.

The couple were refused bail and remanded in custody for three weeks. They were charged under the names on their Swiss passports as Ms Sophie Tureng, aged 36, and Mr Alain Tureng, aged 34. However, New Zealand police believe the passports are false.

Interpol and the Swiss police have reportedly found no trace of the couple under these names.

NZ dollar advances

THE New Zealand dollar gained strongly against both the U.S. and Australian currencies in a burst of hectic trading yesterday afternoon.

Last Friday the NZ dollar touched \$0.50 — the highest point since its devaluation last July. It held the gain on Monday and surged to \$0.52. This is 10 cents above the value of the NZ dollar at its low point of 42 cents before it was floated in March.

The gain was almost 3 per cent since the beginning of the week.

The NZ dollar rose 4 per cent against the Australian dollar to reach 73.5 Australian cents.

Pakistan reserves fall

Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves have fallen to an all-time low of \$600m (\$478m) sufficient to finance only five weeks of imports, Mohammed Aftab reports. But Pakistan has no plans to seek any rescheduling of its \$12bn foreign debt according to Dr Mahbubul Haq, finance minister.

To grapple with balance of payments problems and to build up foreign reserves to a level of \$1bn the Government is to pursue an export drive, manage imports, particularly cash flows on official account, and make a quicker utilisation of foreign assistance," Mr Haq said.

Detentions in South Africa rise to 665

BY ANTHONY ROBINSON IN JOHANNESBURG

THE NUMBER of detentions under South Africa's state of emergency regulations rose to 665 yesterday as the security forces announced a further 224 arrests.

The operation has the hallmarks of a carefully prepared plan to detain those who have emerged in recent months as the grass roots organisers of community action, school boycotts and demonstrations.

The police reported a decline in the number of incidents involving death or injury but said there was stone-throwing

on the East and West Rand and in townships around Johannesburg.

In the Eastern Cape, which accounted for 137 of the latest 224 arrests, police reported seizing "a large number" of dangerous weapons including knives, pangas and sharpened rods at the site of a United Democratic Front (UDF) meeting.

Black community leaders from Soweto, including the mayor Mr Edward Kunene, whose house was destroyed in rioting in the week prior to the

declaration of a state of emergency, discussed the security situation in South Africa's largest black city with Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning.

The meeting, which took place in Pretoria on Tuesday, will be followed by another session on August 13 and reflects the urgency of Government intention to restore the authority of black local councillors and police in the townships.

Thus far the emergency

regulations have not led to the arrest of many trade union officials and the black National Union of Miners (NUM) reports that its planned special congress will take place as scheduled at Welkom on August 3.

The congress has been called in the wake of the union strike ballot which indicated a large majority of members who voted were in favour of strike action. The congress will discuss the tactics of strike action.

Mining areas on the East and West Rand are included in the

36 magisterial districts covered by the emergency regulations but not those in the Orange Free State.

Although the emergency has not directly affected the union's activities, an official said it has undoubtedly had a psychological effect.

The NUM is demanding a 22 per cent across the board pay increase and improved fringe benefits while the chamber of mines has re-used to raise its final offer ranging from 14.1 to 19.6 per cent and has disputed the validity of the strike ballot.

Samuel Senoren assesses the guerrilla campaign of insurgents in the Philippines

Rebels keep up the pressure on Marcos

THE PHILIPPINE flag has fluttered at half mast for about two years above the military headquarters in Davao, the third largest city, some 600 miles south of Manila on Mindanao island.

The half mast mourns the death of soldiers.

The escalating battle against insurgency by the 20-year-old Government of President Ferdinand Marcos reflects the Philippines' faltering economy and desperate efforts by the Marcos regime to get it back into shape.

The city of Davao has been thrust into the centre of the insurgency campaign because the New People's Army (NPA), the military arm of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), has selected it as a pilot area for a sustained propaganda and urban guerrilla war.

The NPA represents a wide cross-section of Philippine society, including professionals, clerics, farmers and students. Only a few are believed to be hardcore Marxists. The majority became guerrillas through force of circumstances, looking to the NPA for swift

justice and retribution, or as an alternative that would eliminate the wide economic disparities in the Philippines.

Davao, with its 800,000 residents, is readily accessible from all points and yet lies close enough to the mountain regions of Mindanao to make it an ideal testing ground for the NPA.

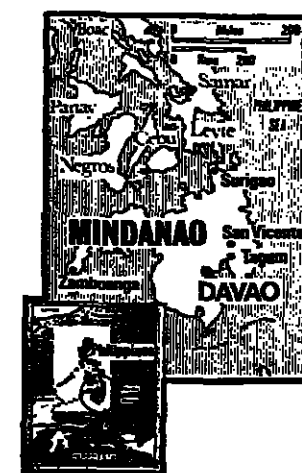
"We have been converted into a 'laboratory' by the communist guerrillas," laments Gen Jaime Echeverria, the region's military commander.

The NPA has gained an undisputed foothold in the city where its liquidation teams, called "sparrow" units, have operated freely since 1983.

The sparrows work in two-to-five-man teams and execute their targets, usually rogue soldiers and abusive civilian officials, in broad daylight and in full public view.

Gen Echeverria, however, claims the sparrows have been put to flight since reforms of the military establishment last year.

During the first half of 1985, he says, people began to co-operate with the armed forces. The turning point came in February when Mr Nur Khan,



the rebel area commander, surrendered to government forces with 500 heavily-armed fighters. A large number of rebels have been captured or surrendered, but an increasing number of recruits are joining the NPA.

The NPA has grown from a ragtag group of a few hundred in 1973, when Mr Marcos

imposed martial rule and jailed hundreds of suspected Communists and Government critics, into a potent force of between 10,000 and 12,000 regulars, 65 per cent of whom are armed. Its arsenal consists mostly of handguns, rifles and machine guns.

The effectiveness of the 250,000-member military, according to Mr Richard Armitage, U.S. Assistant Defence Secretary, has declined during the past 10 years, partly because of a tight defence budget.

The Philippines now spends only about 1.1 per cent of GNP on defence, the lowest ratio in Southeast Asia.

Mr Armitage told a U.S. Congress defence committee in March that the Philippine armed forces did not have 10 years to regain their effectiveness because the success or failure of the insurgency would be seen in the next three years.

About 4 per cent of the country's 41,615 villages are now under NPA control or influence, according to Gen Fidel Ramos, chief of the armed forces. Another military report puts this estimate at 14 per

cent. The NPA actively operates in 62 of the country's 73 provinces.

Gen Ramos says a village is considered to be under NPA influence if the CPP has established a political group there or if a local militia has been formed and 50 per cent of the population can be mobilised.

A much simpler indicator of the extent of NPA influence in a village would be the number of households with dogs. Dogs are taboo to rebels because they betray the presence of strangers and hamper their movement, especially at night.

Last year, more than 1,000 soldiers were killed in encounters with guerrillas; 1,000 civilians also died, mostly victims of crossfire. The armed forces claim to have killed more than 1,000 guerrillas last year.

The NPA/CPA had programmed 1985 as the year for a take-off from strategic defensive to strategic offensive, the second stage of guerrilla wars. Military officials, however, say there has been no evidence to suggest such a take-off. They are hopeful that the third stage, the strategic offensive, will eventuate.

Peres says Jordan ready to talk without conditions

BY OUR TEL AVIV CORRESPONDENT

JORDAN is ready to enter into peace negotiations with Israel without prior conditions, Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, told the Knesset yesterday. Jordan feels that 1985 is its year of opportunity for making progress on the issue of negotiations," he said.

The Premier said that Jordan felt a decision was needed quickly about the issue of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. "If these talks do get under way, they must concentrate not only on mutual recognition, but also on ending terrorism," he said.

Responding to questions about his attitude to the composition of the Palestinian delegation, Mr Peres said that Israel will not examine the history of the delegates, but their current political views.

The Premier said on Tuesday that two of the seven Palestinians who were suggested as delegates would be acceptable to Israel. Both live

in the Israeli-occupied territories. Mr Peres reiterated that Israel would negotiate with representatives of the Palestinians, but not with what he called the murderers from the PLO.

Relations with Egypt, which were severely strained by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, are steadily improving, the Premier told a Knesset committee on Tuesday.

He said that President Hosni Mubarak had informed him that Cairo was lifting all restrictions on trade and tourism with Israel. Furthermore, Egypt intended to open an academic research centre in Israel, similar to the one Israel maintains in Cairo.

The Premier said that all problems had not been resolved, but he did see progress towards meeting the Israeli demand for implementing the normalisation agreements contained in the 1978 peace treaty.

Berri accuses U.S. of treachery over prisoners

BY NORA BOUSTANY IN BEIRUT

ISRAEL released 100 Lebanese prisoners yesterday amid tight security as Mr Nabih Berri, Lebanon's Shiite Muslim leader, charged the U.S. with treachery because a pledge to free hundreds of other detainees in exchange for American hostages had not been honoured. Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militiamen carefully searched international committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) cars at the entrance to a border security strip assigned to transfer the Lebanese prisoners from Ras al Bayda.

A rash of suicide car bombings, the last of which was car-

ried out with a stolen ICRC vehicle in an Israeli-defined security zone in south Lebanon ten days ago, had raised fears of such attacks.

Mr Berri, Justice and State Minister for South Lebanon, negotiated the release of 735 Lebanese prisoners in return for freed passengers of the hijacked TWA plane last month.

Mr Berri called on the international community to "open its eyes to the promises made by the U.S. to Syria for the release of all Aflit prisoners." Israel has only released 400 in two instalments out of the total 735.

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AMERICAN NEWS

Boeing and GE in pledge on overpricing

BOEING, the major U.S. aerospace group, and General Electric, the U.S. industrial conglomerate, have offered to make refunds to the Pentagon for any spare-parts shipments the Government considers overpriced, APD reports from Washington.

The Defence Department said on Tuesday that it has received letters containing the offers from both companies. Mr. Caspar Weinberger, Defence Secretary, said he had directed Pentagon officials to establish a "standard industry-wide refund policy" based on the two letters. A Pentagon official said last night that he was not certain when such a standard would be ready or whether it would be voluntary or mandatory.

The companies' actions come in the wake of disclosures over the past year of excessive charges for spare parts by a number of major contractors. Last year Boeing, the nation's fifth largest defence contractor, cut the price it had charged the air force for a pair of pliers after a Government engineer disclosed the cost to a Senate panel. The Pentagon said it did not know of any such overcharging by GE, the U.S.'s sixth largest defence contractor.

In the case of the pliers, Boeing said on Tuesday that the company had cut the price for two sets of pliers delivered to the service to about \$80 (\$57) each from \$745. It said the Air Force had since returned the pliers to Boeing.

U.S. to investigate recordings of hijack

THE U.S. Justice Department has issued subpoenas to three major television networks for all their coverage of last month's TWA hijacking in Beirut in an effort to identify the hijackers, Reuters reports from New York.

The ABC, CBS and NBC networks confirmed receiving the subpoenas, which they said were aimed at gathering material for a federal grand jury in Washington to indict the hijackers. The subpoenas cover all video tapes, audio tapes and photographs, whether broadcast or not.

THATCHER TO DELIVER KEYNOTE SPEECH

World conservatives hold summit

BY STEWART FLEMING IN WASHINGTON

THE second Party Leaders' Conference of the International Democrat Union, an international organisation of conservative political parties, will open in Washington tonight with a fund raising dinner at which British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher will deliver a keynote address.

According to Mr Harvey Thomas, the UK Conservative Party's Press spokesman who is playing the same role for the IDU here, the two-day meeting represents a coming of age of the union, whose first party leaders' conference was hosted by Mrs Thatcher in London two years ago.

The IDU, which will bring together 135 delegates and observers from conservative parties in 30 countries, is "a rather interesting development"

in the eyes of one Washington observer of the increasing international co-operation among Conservative and right-wing political parties.

Mr Thomas agrees that in the past conservative political parties have, partly, because of a reluctance to appear to be interfering in each others' affairs, tended not to be as active in seeking avenues for international co-operation as socialist and liberal democratic political parties. He points to the Socialist International as an example of the closer links among leftist political groups.

One Washington expert on international party political co-operation points out there is a conservative leaning Christian Democratic International, but that what distinguishes the IDU is its vigorous proselytising on

behalf of right-wing conservative views, particularly in South America.

The active role which Mr Richard Allen, a former national security adviser in the Reagan Administration and foreign policy adviser to the Republican Party, is playing in promoting IDU is cited as evidence of the strength of right-wing conservative views in the organisation.

The Reagan Administration's support for the IDU is emphasised by the presence of Vice-President Mr George Bush, another keynote speaker at the dinner tonight, and the Republican Party's decision to host the meeting.

Mr Thomas says that the origins of the organisation, initiated by the formation of the European and Pacific Democrat Unions in 1978 and 1982,

lie in the "realisation that there was too much collectivism being promoted as the only caring, people-orientated political philosophy."

He adds that a recognition of common ground on privatisation, the importance of the market economy and, in some areas foreign policy, also helps to account for the desire for the 25 Conservative and Christian Democrat party leaders to meet at what the IDU is billing as a "conservative summit."

Among the prime ministers expected to attend along with Mrs Thatcher are Mr Poul Schlüter of Denmark and Mr Edward Seaga of Jamaica.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Bavarian Prime Minister and head of the CSU in West Germany, and Mr Jacques Chirac, mayor of Paris, are also due to attend.

U.S. close to deal on selling Landsat to private sector

BY PETER MARSH

THE END OF the long-running effort to hand America's Landsat earth-mapping satellites to the private sector is in sight. The signing of an agreement is imminent between the Department of Commerce and Eosat, a joint venture between Hughes Aircraft and RCA.

Under the agreement, which is due to be signed in the next week, Eosat will take over in mid-October the running of the Landsat craft from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the Commerce Department.

Landsat satellites, the first of which entered orbit in 1972, relay to ground stations photographs taken from several hundred kilometres above the earth. The information can be used by, for example, farmers to monitor the growth of crops and minerals companies to spot geological faults that may indicate oil deposits.

Digital codes of the photographs are transmitted by radio waves and are turned into useful images by computer techniques. Although sales of Landsat information are put at no more than \$20m (£14.3m) annually, sales of "value

added" products based on the data, oilfield surveys or super-accurate maps, for example, are 10-20 times higher.

Since its inception, the Landsat service has been run as a federal research programme, with little attention given to marketing of the information from the satellites. As a result, the service has made heavy losses.

Both President Carter and, when he took office in 1981, President Reagan have sought to interest private companies in taking over Landsat. But this proved difficult due to the far from proven market for sales of information from outer space.

Under an agreement negotiated in recent months between the Commerce Department and Eosat, the Government will hand to the consortium \$250m over the next five years to fund the lion's share of the development of two more satellites and to improve the network of Landsat receiving stations.

Over this period, Eosat will inject a further \$75m of its own cash, according to Mr Charles Williams, president of the consortium.

The first Eosat-built satellite should be in space in December 1988, one year after the Landsat satellite now in orbit (the fifth member of the Landsat series) wears out.

Eosat faces competition from Spot Image, a company partly backed by the French Government, which plans to sell images from a French-built Spot satellite from early next year.

According to Mr Williams, the biggest commercial threat to Eosat comes not from France but Japan. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Japanese Government plans a series of orbiting craft to take pictures both of land areas and the oceans.

Eosat is to base its operations in Lanham, Maryland, where it will employ 125 people initially. The number should double in 1987. Data from the satellites will be sold by marketing departments of Hughes and RCA around the world.

As part of the agreement with the Commerce Department, Eosat is to build a ground station, probably in Oklahoma, for receiving the data from outer space.

Widow spiders take Ford for a ride

POISONOUS black widow spiders have been riding the railways and highways from a plastics plant in Mexico to a Ford plant in Michigan, AP reports from Detroit.

At least 24 black widows have been found since June 25 in dashboard parts sent to Ford plastics plant in Saline, Michigan, company and United Auto Workers Union officials said.

"There has been no injury as a result of any of this, but it obviously is thoroughly disquieting," Mr Williams Selover, a Ford official said.

"The sorting racks holding the parts apparently have T-V low tubing and the suspicion is that these spiders were hitchhiking in the tubing," he said.

Black widows are about the size of a grape and are characterised by a red hour-glass shape on their bellies. The spiders' bites are not usually deadly, but symptoms include chills, fever, sweating, abdominal cramps, vomiting and pain.

Ford's efforts to stop the unwanted immigrants have included ringing its car plastics plant in Monterrey, Mexico, with a 2 foot wide strip of insecticide, fumigating racks in Monterrey and Saline, and inspecting the dashboard parts and reaching the racks.

Argentines resigned to impasse with UK

By Robert Graham in Buenos Aires

THE ARGENTINE Government is resigned to the present impasse with Britain over the Falklands.

Officials in the Foreign Ministry in Buenos Aires do not discount Britain's method of a step-by-step approach to improve relations. But the Argentine Government is at the moment unwilling to reciprocate Britain's unilateral lifting of the trade embargo, in force since the Falklands conflict in 1982. Britain lifted the embargo on Argentine imports on July 8.

Although the Argentine Government has publicly acknowledged this move to be a positive gesture, the Argentines believe trade relations alone will not alter the basic reality.

This is that Britain is solely concerned with re-establishing normal trade and diplomatic relations without discussing the future of the Falkland Islands.

The Argentines, on the other hand, insist that their main aim in resuming relations with Britain is to ensure that sovereignty is discussed - even if substantive discussion is left to an indeterminate date in the future.

In replying to Britain's lifting of the trade ban, Argentina offered to restart negotiations within the next 80 days, but the Foreign Ministry now feels that such negotiations are most unlikely given Britain's dismissive attitude to this offer.

In private, no initiative is now expected until after the United Nations General Assembly debate on the Falklands in the autumn. A further complication is the holding of parliamentary elections in Buenos Aires in November.

Argentina is already operating on the basis that nothing of value can be achieved in resuming talks with Britain before the end of the year. The main focus in Buenos Aires is on seeking to persuade Argentina's allies in Europe to adopt a more positive position of support in advance of the UN debate.

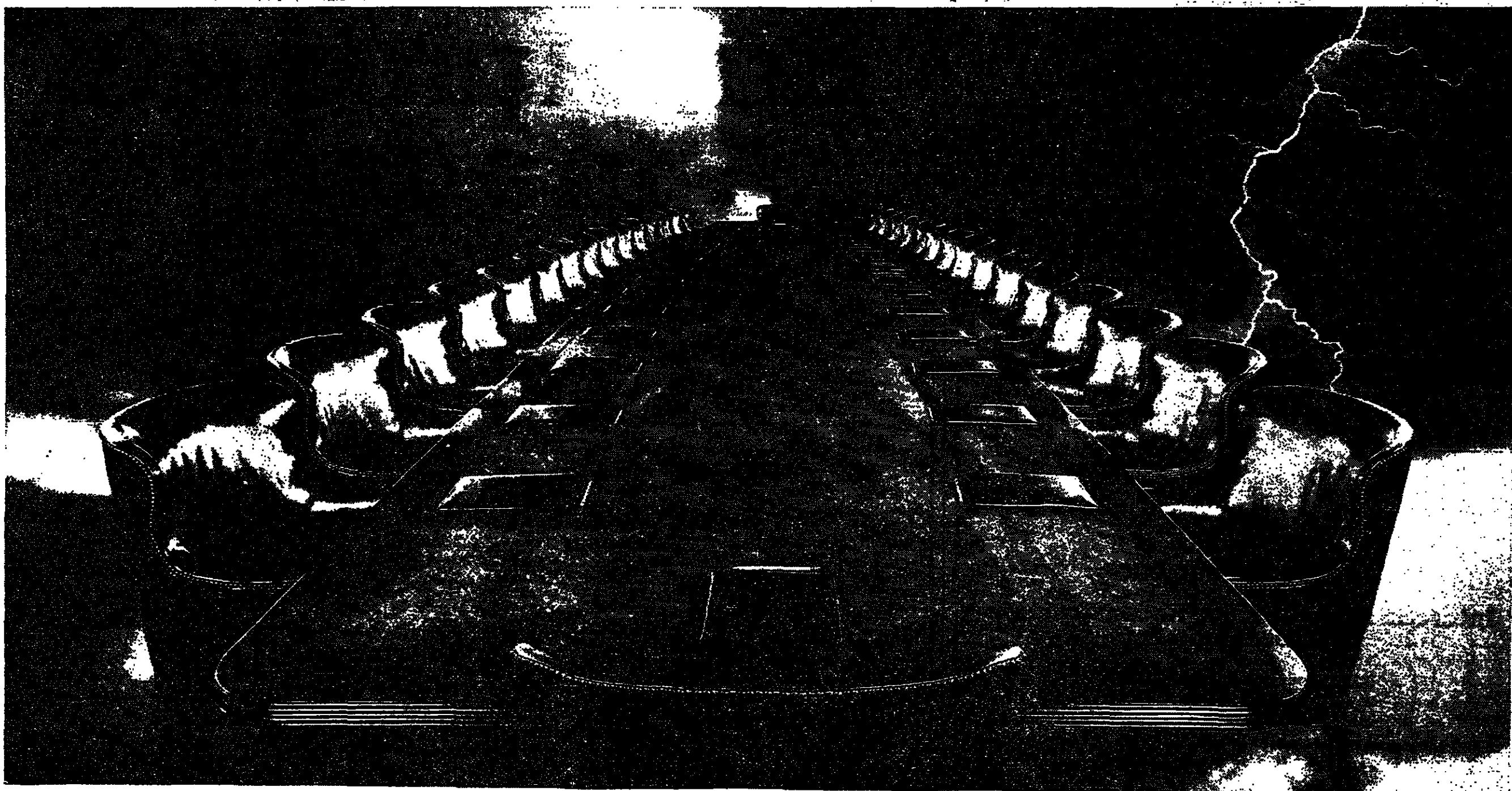
Since Britain announced it was lifting the trade ban, the British interest section of the Swiss Embassy, which is looking after UK interests in Buenos Aires, has had several inquiries. The Anglo-Argentine Chamber of Commerce has also had inquiries.

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WORLD TRADE NEWS

U.S. and UK 'make progress on trade control disputes'

BY DAVID BUCHAN

THE U.S. sees no prospect of persuading Britain to concede the vexed legal argument over the extra-territorial reach of U.S. export controls.

It believes, however, that the two governments are making headway in smoothing over some of their trade control disputes, a senior U.S. official said in London yesterday.

Mr William Archie, Assistant U.S. Commerce Secretary responsible for trade regulation, spoke to reporters a day after he had briefed the Department of Trade and Industry on the new Export Administration Act which Congress finally passed last month.

The briefing also included the new licensing system governing regular technology shipments between Western Allies. The Licensing system came into effect this week.

Asked about the view of Sir Michael Havers, UK Attorney-General, that U.S. control over certain exports from the UK and over movement of some U.S. technology within the UK was contrary to international law, Mr Archie said: "We have agreed to disagree on this point."

He claimed, however, that British and allied opinion had been taken into account in the operation of new U.S. trade controls, and he cited the "general distribution licences" which the Commerce Department has started to issue this week.

These give major U.S. companies blanket authority for

periods of four years to ship certain high technology to their regular customers in countries which are members, along with the U.S., of the Paris-based Coordinating Committee (CoCom)—basically Nato plus Japan.

The original U.S. proposal was that, under such a licence, all CoCom country recipients of U.S. technology would have to provide Washington with a detailed list of all their customers world-wide, so that none of the sensitive goods ended up in the Warsaw Pact.

U.S. allies protested at this, and Mr Archie said, the customer list requirement was scrapped.

Previous attempts by U.S. companies, like IBM, to control the movement of their machines even inside an allied country such as Britain were made more or less moot by the new distribution licence system, Mr Archie said.

It was a letter a couple of years ago by the UK subsidiary of IBM to its British customers reminding them that the letter of U.S. law required them to notify any changes in use or location of their computers which did much to stir general British animosity over U.S. extra-territorial controls.

Trade controls for national security reasons, agreed on a multilateral basis within CoCom, generally caused less friction between Washington and London than U.S. controls imposed unilaterally for foreign policy purposes, Mr Archie claimed.

Andrew Fisher reports on worsening trends in the seaborne trade industry

Drowsy cargo markets face the big sleep

WHERE HAVE all the cargoes gone? It could be the shipowner's lament of 1985: for after several years of desperately weak bulk cargo markets, they have now become worse than ever.

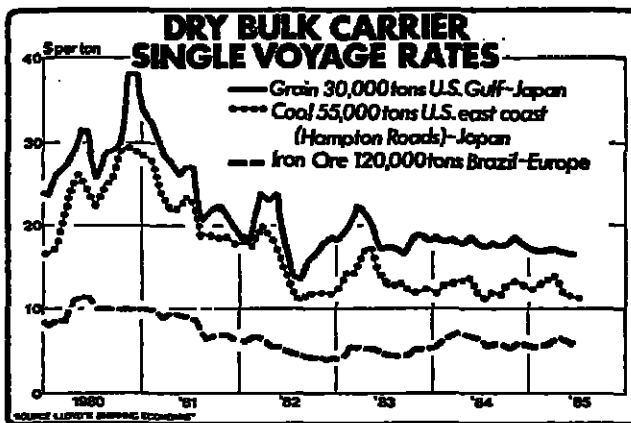
Normally, the market goes through a drowsy patch in the summer. But this year's slowdown has made markets somnolent enough to alarm those in the industry well used to falling rates and lack of earnings.

Current cargo rates tell a grim story. For example, the rate per ton for coal from Hampton Roads on the U.S. East Coast through the Panama Canal to Japan is under \$12, against nearly \$30 at the end of 1980. Grain and iron ore rates have also slumped in the past four years.

Figures from the General Council of British Shipping were equally depressing, showing its index for single voyage rates for bulk cargoes in June back near the September, 1983, level. This was lower than in 1976, when the index began, and a third of the peak of April, 1980.

Shipbrokers seem to be vying with each other to find the most telling descriptions of the industry's sorry state. From London, Edgar Forrester said: "There is a greater degree of pessimism prevailing in the market than at any time during the 1980s."

Norway's P. F. Bassoe said:



"It needs more than a cheerful optimism to expect an immediate upturn in the market."

New ships were pouring on to the market and the tonnage surplus was equivalent to about a quarter of the existing fleet.

The old clichés about shipowners being like lemmings in chasing the newest trends, often with disastrous results, and about too many ships chasing too few cargoes are all too painfully true.

The slide in rates for bulk cargoes like coal, iron ore, and grain is not just a reflection of sudden poor demand, though these markets could certainly do with a bit more trading bounce.

For some years, seaborne trade has failed to show the steady growth rates of the 1960s and 1970s, when major industries were still in full expansionary stride. Now, big manufacturing industries are tending to retrench or adjust.

So the new tonnage is not matched by an upsurge in demand. The temptations of low prices and attractive financing at world yards, especially in the Far East, have proved irresistible to many owners.

"Cargoes are not going down," said Mr David Giles, a director of Simpson Spence and Young, the London shipbrokers.

"They have, in fact, been growing, but they've been outpaced by the supply of ships."

The output of new bulk carrier tonnage rose last year by 2.6m gross tons to 6.4m, according to Lloyd's Register of Shipping. In the first quarter of 1985, another 2.9m tons were completed, with nearly 4m tons still on order.

This year, said Bassoe, more new ships in the bulk sector would be delivered than ever before. Other negative factors were:

● The rise in the number of combination ships, also able to carry oil, in dry cargo markets during the tanker sector's malaise.

● Prospects of improved world grain harvests, notably in the Soviet Union, which chartered many ships to import grain after last year's poor crops.

● Shipyard capacity. Yards remain desperate for work (Sanko, the loss-making Japanese group, ordered 125 bulk carriers from domestic yards in 1983).

● Lower oil prices which may prolong the life of older ships by reducing costs. (Bunker fuel prices are some \$10 a ton less than earlier this year).

● Less need for raw materials as a result of change in industry's production methods.

This has had a severe effect on second-hand ship prices, now in "free-fall," said Bassoe. This year has so far seen a slide of 40 per cent in values for most types of vessel, which increases financial pressures on shipping companies and makes more casualties likely.

As if to rub salt in the wounds, the Oslo broker also referred to suggestions that China may start to export coal and iron ore, so shortening transport lanes to Japan and reducing demand for shipping. Low oil prices do not help coal sales either.

Every so often, one or other sector of the market sees a flurry of activity which encourages owners to order again. This happened with Panamax vessels—60,000-80,000 tons and able to go through the canal—at the start of the 1980s, then to Cape-size ships (100,000 tons-plus), and finally to handy sized ships of 25,000-40,000 tons.

It was mostly the latter which Sanko ordered in such profusion. These are now an extra drag on the market, especially on the Pacific. But Fairplay magazine's latest listings show numerous bulk carriers of all sizes on order from other Japanese, Chinese, Indian, Iranian, Greek, Hong Kong, Norwegian, and Polish owners.

Norwegians and P & O in liquid gas pact

By Fay Gjester in Oslo

BRITAIN'S P & O and a five-company Norwegian shipping group have jointly landed a two-year contract, with options for a further two years, to carry natural gas liquids from a new Norwegian natural gas terminal and separation plant at Kårstø, Western Norway.

The Norwegian state oil company, Statoil, which awarded the contract, estimates that it will be worth a total of around Nkr 50m (£1.3m) annually. Shipments will consist mainly of propane, with some butane, and will average between 500,000 and 600,000 tonnes annually during the contract period.

Norwegian Gas Carriers (NGC), which controls 15 small gas tankers, will handle smaller shipments from the separation plant, while P & O will take large lots in its big tankers, under a co-operation agreement.

NGC says that the rates under the contract, which will run from October 1 this year, are better than those being paid in the spot market.

The five partners in NGC are Einar Bakkevig, Langfeldt-Skaugen Management, Ivarns, Olvind Lorentzen and Oslo Shipping.

French group signs \$85m Colombia oil-terminal deal

BY PAUL BETTS IN PARIS

GTM-ENTREPOSE, the civil engineering group controlled by the French Vallourec steel group, has signed a \$85m (\$65m) contract to build an oil terminal in Colombia.

The deal ends a fierce bidding battle between the French company and Bechtel, the U.S. engineering group, for the award of a major pipeline and oil terminal contract in Colombia.

Bechtel originally won the contract for the 500-kilometre pipeline across the Andes to Coveñas on the Caribbean coast. But it is now re-contracted the terminal part of the deal to GTM-Entrepose.

The French company had

originally hoped to win the entire \$500m pipeline project. To give itself a better chance to beat Bechtel, GTM-Entrepose agreed to drop a \$10m claim against Ecopetrol, the Colombian state oil company, on an earlier project.

The claim had soured relations between the French company and Ecopetrol, and is believed to have cost GTM-Entrepose a contract for the initial section of the pipeline which Bechtel has been contracted to build. This first section went to Mannesman of West Germany.

The pipeline and the terminal are regarded as a key project for Colombia.

Philips/S. Korea venture

BY LAURA RAUN IN AMSTERDAM

PHILIPS, the Dutch electronics group, plans to establish a \$50m (£38m) joint venture with Dongwon Electronics, a South Korean company, to manufacture and export of VHS video cassette recorders.

Approval for the joint venture, to be 70 per cent owned by Philips and 30 per cent by Dongwon, is expected from the Seoul Government within months.

The plans are for annual

production of 500,000 VHS recorders of the type compatible with television sets in the Far East and the U.S. market, with production rising to 1m by 1989.

This is Philips' third Far Eastern co-operative arrangement announced in the past 10 days following a fibre-optics technology transfer to China and a home-telecommunications joint venture with Kyocera of Japan.

Inmarsat books launches on Ariane and Shuttle

BY PETER MARSH IN LONDON

INMARSAT, the international body responsible for satellite communications between ships and shore bases, has played a key role in the U.S. space shuttle and Western Europe's Ariane for its next generation of space vehicles.

The shuttle and Ariane are the two main contenders in the growing business of launching communications satellites, worth about \$300m a year.

The 43-nation Inmarsat, based in London, is paying \$75m for two satellite launches on the shuttle and a

third on the European rocket, which is sold by Arianespace, a company in Paris.

Inmarsat's family of three new satellites, which British Aerospace is building at a cost of \$150m, will enter orbit after June 1988.

Mr Olof Lundberg, the organisation's director general, said, "We could afford to look Inmarsat into only one (launch-vehicle) supplier this early in a spacecraft programme, particularly when the launch vehicle market promises to be very competitive."

Italian transport company wins \$100m U.S. order

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN

BREDA, Italy's state-owned public transport construction company, has won a \$100m order to supply the city of Washington D.C. with 72 new carriages for its underground system. The contract brings the total value of underground vehicles supplied by Breda to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority since 1980 to \$400m.

Breda, the Pistoia-based company which is part of the EFIM state holding group, has already shipped 294 carriages to Washington. The company originally beat Japanese, Canadian, West German and

French bidders.

The company will deliver the newest order for 72 vehicles by late next year or early 1987. Breda first won orders in the U.S. market in 1978 when the city of Cleveland, Ohio, ordered \$40m worth of trams.

Breda last year had total sales of £121m (\$110m) and net profits of £1.5m. It employs 1,360 workers and said that in 1984 some 97 per cent of total revenues came from outside Italy. The company is presently at work on a project for a new underground line in the City of Rome.



This man is bidding for Debenhams

Mr Halpern's Burton Group is, as is well-known, bidding for Debenhams.

But Burton's experience in retailing is largely limited to selling inexpensive clothes to the under-30s (a declining market*) in single storey shops.

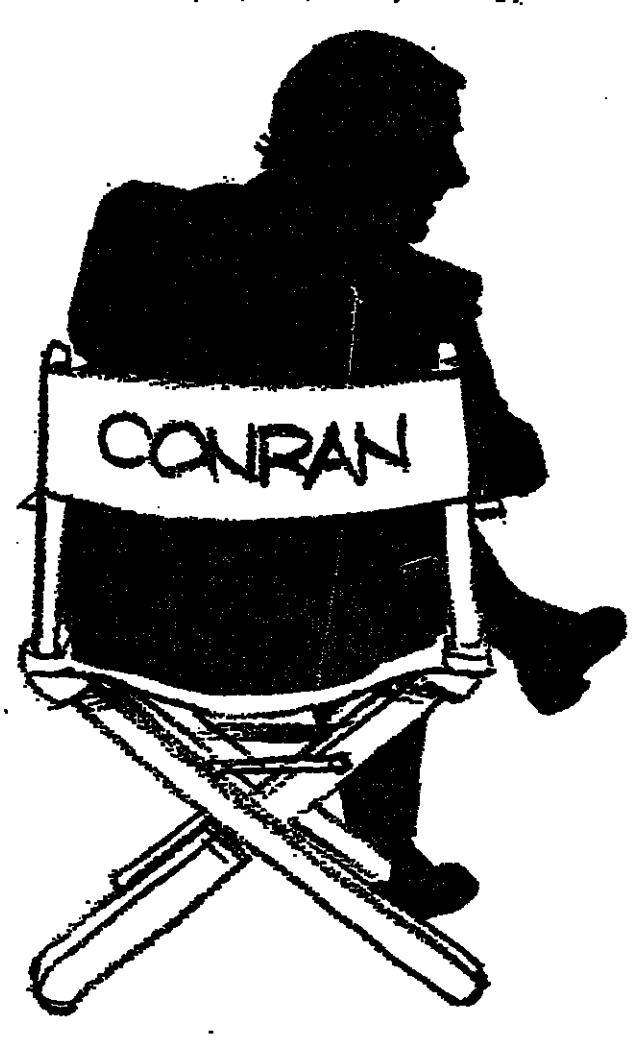
No wonder he wants to try and grab Debenhams share of the growth market of the next decade.

His single attempt to appeal to the expanding over-30s market (so well understood by Debenhams) is struggling. 'Principles', the shop chain in question, is acknowledged to be less than a success.

His experience of managing large, multi-level stores retailing a wide range of merchandise is virtually nil.

His expansive claims to have the ability to run Debenhams are ill-founded.

To support them, he has felt compelled to present his bid as a joint effort with Sir Terence Conran. It is nothing of the kind. Burton is bidding on its own.



This man isn't bidding for Debenhams

Sir Terence Conran's Habitat-Mothercare Group is, as is less well-known, not bidding for Debenhams.

He is putting up no cash.

He has no legal commitment whatever to the potential future of Debenhams.

Mr Halpern is offering him an option of up to 20% of Debenhams (if Burton were to take it over); this option can't be exercised until September 1986, and even then Sir Terence has no obligation to go ahead.

Mr Halpern intends that Sir Terence should be responsible for design aspects. The 'galleria', their offering in store design thinking, has been largely discredited as vague and hopelessly costly. It has been pushed back to a very inconspicuous corner amongst their claims.

Sir Terence can afford to sit on the sidelines; he isn't bidding.

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*Source: Central Statistical Office: Social Trends, 1985.

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THE ARTS

Aix-en-Provence Festival/Ronald Crichton

Three operas for new theatre

The open-air structure which the artist Cassandre designed for the summer opera festival at Aix-en-Provence lasted for some 40 years. Now the theatre architect Bernard Guillaumot has designed a new one, unveiled at the opening of the present festival. Same place—same courtyard of the Archbishop's palace next to the cathedral. More seats (just over 1,600) shared between stalls with a steepish rake and two tiers of balconies on steel scaffolding. A wide, adjustable proscenium, a roomy stage with space above it for sets for three or four operas. The blend of traditional and modern works well—the proscenium arch looks heavy but once the house lights are down you can't see it—and in spite of the size there is a feeling of intimacy. The whole contraption can be quickly dismantled and stored until the next festival.

Judging from this year's three operas—*Figaro*, Monteverdi's *Orfeo* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*, voices carry strongly, orchestral sound is fair to thin. The auditorium seats are not for long stretches, as comfortable as they look, and adjusting one's position on the shiny surface is not easy. Since they don't fold back far enough to make up for absence of leg-room, squinting past is difficult.

No self-respecting French opera-goer dreams of sitting down until the last possible moment. Small details, compared to the efficiency with which the installation has been carried through in an apparently short time or with the high technical standard of the three productions, all new, and presented within little more than a week.

Two successes, of which more later, one disappointment. *Figaro*, this is a co-production with the opera of Lyon, Nice and the Fenice at Venice, with assistance from the Action Musicale Seita, Orchestra and conductor, John Elliot Gardiner, are from Lyon, one of the finest opera houses of the day.

whose connections with the Aix Festival are close, Louis Erlo being director of both. Aix has done much in the past for the cultivation of Mozart's operas in France but the choice of the Florentine architect Pier Luigi Pieralli as producer and designer of their new *Figaro* did not turn out happily.

Mr Pieralli had an idea. Beaumarchais' clockmaker's son, trained to follow in father's footsteps. So then—clocks and clockwork. A travelling clock among the props. A large clock-face let down now and then, ticking away at galloping stage time. At moments when the plot thickens more quickly than usual, two panels of clockwork appear, revolving squeakily. Stage time occupied most of the time by a big circular opening like a giant porthole, in reality the rim of an absent clock-face, the frame serving many purposes including door to clothes cupboard and window for Cherubino's escape from the Countess's bedroom. Singers' postures exaggeratedly theatrical. Of Mozartian feeling, fury or fun, not a trace. General effect irritating—and deadly dull.

It would be agreeable, but untrue, to say that the conductor saved the situation.

Mr Gardiner, as the overture showed, has made a responsive ensemble out of the Lyon Opera Orchestra, but the ensemble was not wholly secure and the accompanied recitatives—how could this happen with a musician who deals to aly with the problems of Rameau's declamation?—went limp.

Lella Cuberli's Countess was as smooth and creamy as a young Lisa della Casa, Christine Barba's Susanna similarly limpid but less expressive.

For the rest it was a question of competent singers in search of direction—the potentially good *Figaro* of Gilles Cachemalle, the Count of Thomas Hampson, well sung but played with monotonous inoffensiveness, a Cherubino from Diana Montague giving a mere sketch.

For one of that generation, the sound of Stones, Beatles and Kinks and the herbal smell were more redolent of the period and its sweet, silly hopefulness curdling into solipsism than the slightly inconsequential play.

The evening's second half comprises four playlets linked tenuously by each protagonist's visit to the same room in Ladbroke Grove, now part of a Bat conversion for sale. The first, the laboured contrivance for items conceived separately. A cool—in most senses—exploration of living together that culminates in an off-hand proposal (the inheritance of the laid-back Sixties?) needs tightening up; the story of a gay and fashionable astrologer's harassment by a love-starved woman.

Devised through discussion and improvisation by some of the cast, the show has moments of sharp truth. Charles Grant's Gem, filling his Ladbroke Grove home with "wonderful people living in," the harmony of the making, the obligatory bisexual advances to

of what we know she can do. Ugo Benelli's Basile reduced to a jacking automaton. A large number of people are going to see this *Figaro*. With such a perverse conception it will need more than a clockmaker's ingenuity to get things right.

The Aix *Orfeo* is a many-pronged, cosmopolitan affair, a co-production with the Geneva and Orleans Operas and the Théâtre des Champs Elysées in Paris, sponsored by Air France. A film has been made. Erato has recorded the performance (RTM 73212, two discs) in co-operation with Radio France Orchestra from Lyon Opera, chorus from the Chapelle Royale of Ghent, ballet from the Grand Théâtre de Genève. Swiss conductor, Michel Corboz, and producer, Claude Goretta, a distinguished film director. The fact that so much work had been done already no doubt explained a degree of unity and certainty unusual at such an early stage.

Goretta and his designer Jacques Buñoir have chosen a primitive-classical approach with Greek tunics, drapes, hillocks which slide about and recompose, lighting (by Philippe Rutinet) in strong, clear, beautiful Wieland-Wagner colours.

Baroque "Greek" dancing. That sounds as though the artifice which plagues revivals of both Monteverdi and Gluck's treatment of the Orpheus legend has been kept. Mercifully, this is not the case. The effect is simple, direct, fresh. I gather, from scrutiny of the record box, that the edition used is by Edward H. Tarr, published by Costallat.

The evening started on a high level with the strophes of La musica project, with impeccable clarity from one of the proscenium boxes by Colette Alliot-Lugaz—for once Monteverdi was not spoiled by under-casting of the divinity or allegorical figures. Orpheus was Gino Quilico, forthright and passionate, attacking the melisma roughly at times, yet roughness is preferable to the expiringly sorrowful, self-

playing quality some baritones bring to the role. Carolyn Watkinson as the Messenger, Danielle Borst as Proserpine and Audrey Michael as Eurydice graced the stage. François Le Roux was a vigorous Apollo (on the records the role is sung by Eric Tappy). Frangiskos Voutsinos a sinister, jovial Pluto.

The new *Ariadne auf Naxos* is described as a co-production with the Société Lyonnaise de Banque. Presumably that means sponsorship. Whatever the arrangement, the Bank have reason to be proud of their creation. I hope they mean what they say in their handout concerning the encouragement of interesting operas rarely performed. Perhaps they will remember two distinguished but neglected sonsof Aix, Campra and Milhaud. The Festival's director Louis Erlo, who produced an excellent Milhaud double-bill of *Les Méneurs d'Orphée* and *Salade* for one of the Gulbenkian Festivals at Lisbon, would surely agree.

Producer Göran Järvefelt and his designer Kathrine Hysing have made a worthy framework for Jesse Norman's stupendous *Ariadne*, one which would hold together without a central performance of this magnitude. A baroque-style private theatre in a long way from the customary sullen pouts displayed in this role. It would be hard for a tenor to match this. William Johns, presenting Bacchus as a neat little German preening, did not do so. But he sang bravely and bravely.

Semyon Bychkov, a Leningrad-born conductor now working in the U.S., wisely did not try to conjure the full Straussian richness from the Radio France New Philharmonic. Their contribution, like much else in this evening, was clear and intelligent, with bonuses one can't always count on in readings, such as the accuracy of the wind chording in the final scene.

Miss Norman, splendidly and stately robed in mauve and black, sings sumpuously, pouring out full-throated passion over the whole range of their voice. At times, in *Ariadne*'s first cries of grief on finding herself abandoned and on the arrival of the unknown god, a kind of animal ferocity seemed to fill not only the whole



Audrey Michael and Gino Quilico in "Orfeo"

Ariadne. The top register is not brilliant but soft and supple. An original view of the bright little know-all but a tenable and sympathetic one. There is a peach of a composer from Jeanne Pélard, American in spite of her name, who was given a thunderous welcome at the end of the prologue.

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theatre but the sky above it—a long way from the customary sullen pouts displayed in this role. It would be hard for a tenor to match this. William Johns, presenting Bacchus as a neat little German preening, did not do so. But he sang bravely and bravely.

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Romeo and Juliet/Coliseum

Clement Crisp

When the Bolshoi Ballet made its first tremendous impact in London in 1956 it was with Leonid Lavrovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*, Ulanova as the heroine, and with this staging and performance our standards and views about the full-length ballet underwent a profound change.

Here was a massive new way of presenting balletic drama, opulent in means, operatic perhaps in style, but compelling both as dance and as spectacle.

There followed a series of stagings, from those by Cranko and MacMillan to more recent versions by Grigorovich, Neumeier, Nureyev, which have variously developed that initial, Muscovite manner.

And in the pre-Bolshoi distance there was a staging which Sir Frederick Ashton had made for the Royal Danish Ballet in 1955.

Conceived for a company of dance-actors, modest in scale because made for a modest stage, it was seen at the Edinburgh Festival and in New York, and was given in Copenhagen for a decade, before disappearing from the repertoire.

It was thought to be one of those victims of changing balletic fashion, and whatever the regrets at the loss of a major work by a master choreographer, it was supposed to be lost for good.

But rehearsal film, notations by a member of its cast, Niels Bjørn Larsen, survived, and now London Festival Ballet has restored it to the stage, a rescue operation in part inspired by a Peter Schaufuss's affection for a work in which his mother, the late Mona Vangsness, was the first Juliet, and in which the boy Schaufuss had danced a tiny role.

With Ashton's own guiding hand to correct the text and instil the proper stylistic man-

ner, with designs by Peter Rice after his original decors, and with Schaufuss now its Romeo, it took the Coliseum stage on Tuesday night.

It is, it must be admitted, a very different version of the tale, owing nothing to the gigantism which came with the Bolshoi, and eschewing all the bustle and dramatic bravura of later productions.

A key to the Ashton approach can be found in Peter Rice's uncluttered permanent set of steps and colonnaded arches.

Verona is nowhere present: the action is told in simple, almost domestic terms, concentrated upon the two lovers—Katherine Healy the Juliet to Schaufuss's Romeo—changes of location indicated by the introduction of minimal decorative items.

The language seems more restrained, more precise and less exultantly emotional than in any other version I know, and the dramatic fabric of the tale, the sharpness of characterisation, is underplayed save in the work for the lovers.

There results a ballet which is sometimes at odds with the power of Prokofiev's music, somewhat cut in this version—and one which demands, but does not as yet receive, interpretations of the closest and most brilliant focus.

There are many choreographic foibles, but the sense of passion which must bear us along with the tragedy, was rarely apparent in this first performance.

And by its very economy of means, there seems not enough room for the expansion of the drama: certain characters seem ciphers, and the way in which we now understand the tale—in its post-Bolshoi existence—as a dance tragedy sprung from a clearly defined historical setting, is often contradicted by the abstractness of the Ashton view.

Peter Schaufuss makes an honourable first sketch of Romeo; Miss Healy, very young, is technically neat, but does not bring much lyric or emotional resonance to her reading.

Places to Crash/Latchmere

Martin Hoyle

This evening of five short plays presented by Gentle Reader, a company of bright and lively young actors, lives up to the opening coup de théâtre. The white backdrop falls forward to take its place as a cushion-strewn carpet on the floor, and from behind it burst the bearded and beflowered reminders of an era that now seems as remote as the first Elizabethans.

In the psychodrama summer of 1967 the psychodrama that shares aristocratic Gem's house drops also to the sound of the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations," makes out washing-up roles ("That's a groovy idea"), loves, squabbles and breaks up to the ironic sound of "Here Comes the Sun." "I'm being too loving, aren't I? Like a great big nesting bird," coo clings Kath, and the evening's chief interest lies in Rosalind Adler's beautifully rounded portrayal of apologetic gush, the possessive single parent devoted to sculptor Colin, whose suffocating love is the irritant that drives the exasperated crew to take the first tentative steps in partial and painful growing up.

Devised through discussion and improvisation by some of the cast, the show has moments of sharp truth. Charles Grant's Gem, filling his Ladbroke Grove home with "wonderful people living in," the harmony of the making, the obligatory bisexual advances to

his tenants, and Emma Relph's languidly arrogant upper-class bitch, secure in self-absorption, and whose young actor's play is "tell me about myself" are recognisable, though Holly de Jong's white South African dissident remains undeveloped, and Max Hafer's Colin is no more than a fashionable Mersey accent.

For one of that generation, the sound of Stones, Beatles and Kinks and the herbal smell were more redolent of the period and its sweet, silly hopefulness curdling into solipsism than the slightly inconsequential play.

The evening's second half comprises four playlets linked tenuously by each protagonist's visit to the same room in Ladbroke Grove, now part of a Bat conversion for sale. The first, the laboured contrivance for items conceived separately. A cool—in most senses—exploration of living together that culminates in an off-hand proposal (the inheritance of the laid-back Sixties?) needs tightening up; the story of a gay and fashionable astrologer's harassment by a love-starved woman.

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Brigitte Fassbaender/Wigmore Hall

Andrew Clements

Miss Fassbaender was an absentee from last Friday's *Mozart: Messiah*, which opened the Proms. Happily, whatever kept her from that engagement had disappeared in time for her recital at the Wigmore Hall in which she was partnered by Irwin Gage.

It proved to be a most memorable evening, as intelligently executed as it was skilfully planned. The first half was given over entirely to Schumann—five assorted Heine settings followed by the Heine *Liederkreis* Op. 24. Miss Fassbaender's Schumann is well known from recordings; it lays great stress on immaculate verbal inflection, less perhaps on continuity of line. Thus the tripartite scheme of "Tragdie: I, II, III" from Op. 64 became nothing short of a miniature scene, its central section tense, theatrically perfect.

In the song cycle also the dramatic shape of the sequence was unusually well presented. Voices more ample but infinitely less interesting than Miss Fassbaender's would make broad effusions of such numbers as "Berg und Burgen" and "Mit Myrten und Rosen," where she was more interested in giving them a correct context and a colouring that would best

articulate their meaning. The Op. 24 *Liederkreis* is not the most even of Schumann's cycles, but it rarely sustains itself as fluently as it did here.

Mr Gage proved to be an engaging accompanist in all the Schumann settings; one or two of the more extended postludes were tricked out with a self-consciousness, but the way in which he unfolded the twining lines of "Mein Wagen rollt langsam" from the Op. 142 collection was admirable. In a group of Liszt songs he delivered the sometimes extrovert writing with great panache, a well measured complement to his singer's exquisite sense of style and unfailingly well enunciated French.

Richard Strauss closed the published programme: an understated, rapt "Morgen," a sweet, affecting "Zueignung." Berg's *Four Songs* Op. 2 were however the outstanding accounts of the second half.

That Miss Fassbaender is a Bergian of exemplary understanding we know from her appearances as the Countess Geschwitz in *Lulu*, but the personal and idiomatic way in which she delivered the early songs made one eager to hear much more of her in the music of the Second Viennese School.

Few singers of her comprehensive and sensitive touch, such repertoire, but then she is in so many ways a quite exceptional artist.

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The Mladinsko Theatre of Ljubljana at the Riverside Studios

Mass in A Minor/Riverside Studios

Michael Coveney

To be real, states the prologue, this story should be told in Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian or Yiddish. Or in a combination of all those languages. The remarkable, impassioned production presented by Lift in the smaller of the Riverside studios is a memorial ritual for the life in particular of Boris Davidovich Novsky and the death in general of a populist revolutionary movement in eastern Europe.

The occasion marks London's first chance both to sample the work of Ljubisa Ristic, one of Yugoslavia's (and Europe's) leading directors, and to salute the extraordinary quality of the Mladinsko Theatre of Ljubljana. It is difficult, but not impossible, to follow the proceedings which are enacted on eight stages around an audience seated on cushions in the middle of the studio. Your Serbo-Croat may not be up to scratch. But the overall meaning and energy of the performance are unmistakable, and there are many passages in German and French.

Novsky was a scientist and political activist who was a victim of the Stalinist purges and was found dead in Siberia in 1957. At the time, according to Danilo Kis's short story based on his life (re-printed in its entirety in an excellent programme) he was known as "the Bolshevik Hamlet." In a striking sequence, we see Lenin gestulating and orating wildly—but in utter silence—on the other side of the theatre, a scowling long-coated actor re-enacting the "Fall of a Sparrow" soliloquy; another then takes over with (again in English) "To be or not to be" and is struck down with an axe.

It is a stunning reminder of the revolutionary function of art and a point, perhaps, that could only be made with such force by an Eastern European company. The early passages of Mass establish Novsky's Jewish and radical orientation through a series of vivid tableaux while Lenin sits impassively in a library, indifferent to the story. The company sings some wonderful folk and Jewish songs in between dismissing the various "official" tracts of Bakunin,

Trotsky, Kollontai and Kropotkin. Novsky, who is individualised only so far as the didactic point of the evening demands, is often sucked into the vortex of the uprising in a Petersburg salon, where Schumann is usurped by Chaikovsky at the piano and "Isadora Duncan" dances to the Internationale.

Chewing the revolutionary fat in a German religious sanatorium, Novsky's attempts the disaffected, incipiently rabid Berlin cabaret. This sequence is hard to understand, but Ristic counterpoints the debate with a line of showgirls viciously strutting their stuff while the Chaplin film is projected on the wall behind them.

The mood then switches to one of domestic and sexual intimacy, couples pondering their fate and responsibilities while news of the Kronstadt uprising is channelled through the radio stations. As assemblies to sing a rousingly ironic version of the Soviet anthem, ordinary lives are blown apart, beds upturned, rooms rummaged, Novsky tortured and confined to a large-like company version, with new English lyrics, of the Beatles' "She's leaving home" ends with a fierce camouflage thrown in disgust to the floor and the line "USSR, Bye-bye."

I suppose because it is from abroad that the Russian miners' strike, this is the sort of Riverside show the GLC dubs "elitist." It is, in fact, an intellectual radical vaudeville, robust and theatrically primitive, a cry of anguish and defiance from a country which knows the price of freedom and the value of independence.

The Trustees of Youth and Music has launched an appeal to raise £100,000 for the Robert Mayer Trust.

The trust was set up last year after Sir Robert's death to ensure the continuation of the Robert Mayer Concerts for children, and Youth and Music.

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Saleroom/Anthony Thornecroft

Golfing memorabilia

Bel Aire Golf Club in California was a busy bazaar at Sotheby's largest ever auction of golfing memorabilia yesterday. It paid £3,850 for a long-nosed putter, made around 1835 at St Andrews by H. Philp, the most revered maker of golf clubs: £3,320 for a long-nosed long spoon club; £2,310 for a similar by the same. It also invested £1,760 in a ball, a feathery golf ball of 1840 by Gourlay, the big name among ball makers. The auction totalled £171,099 with 14.5 per cent unsold. The two top lots failed to find buyers—a 1717 copy of "Nouvelles regles pour le jeu de mail," the

pioneer game of golf, being fought in at £2,900, and a water-colour by William Nicholson of golf, reproduced in Kipling's "Almanac of twelve sports" 1897, was unsold at £3,600. The highest price paid was £4,830, way above the £900 top estimate, for a view of the "Royal and Ancient Club House at St Andrews" in 1879, painted by Thomas Hodge.

Another water-colour by Hodge of Old Tom, Tom Morris, probably the greatest of St Andrews golfing figures, went for £3,980, double its top estimate. "St Andrews under snow," another Hodge water-colour, did well at £3,850.

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Arts Guide
July 19-July 25

Exhibitions
SWITZERLAND
Martigny: Fondation Pierre Gianadda: 150 Klein paintings in the striking neo-classical gallery built over the Roman ruins of the city of Octodurum. Ends Nov 3. (0242/23716).

VIENNA
Vienna 1870-1890: Dream and Reality: The greatest names of the Viennese fin-de-siècle—Klimt, Otto Wagner, Schiele, Kokoschka, Atthoff, Loos, Josef Hoffmann—in a dazzling display of Jugendstil creative genius. The attempt to integrate the artistic achievements of this era with philosophical developments (notably Wittgenstein but also Freud) and po-

litical transformations (the emergence of municipal socialism on the ruins of Europe's splendour) is an ambitious and only partly successful. The complex tension between anticlerical and censured reality on the one hand and the illusions or fantasies of individual artists on the other is hinted at but not fully explored. A high point of the show is a reconstruction of Hoffman's room at the secession exhibition of 1902. Here, triumphantly restored, is Klimt's fifty-foot Beethoven frieze depicting humanity's progress through suffering to joy on the theme of the Ninth Symphony. Displayed exactly as intended, this alone is worth a special visit. Kunsterhaus. Ends October 8.

SPAIN
Madrid: Palacio de Cristal and Palacio Velazquez, Parque del Retiro: Spanish sculpture 1900-35. Sculpture and drawings by Picasso, Afro and contemporaries. The selection of the two works featured in the 1937 Paris exhibition, at the height of the Spanish Civil War, and now shown in Spain for the first time: Picasso's *Femme du Vas* and Julio Gonzalez's *La Montserrat*. Ends July 30. (3747775).

Santander, Santillana del Mar: The splendour of pre-Columbian culture. Gold exhibits from the Quimbaya Treasure, Fundación Santillana, Torre de don Borja. Ends Aug 20.

LONDON
The Tate Gallery: Francis Bacon, British's greatest living painter, accorded the rare distinction at the age of 78 of a second full retrospec-

tive exhibition at the Tate, 20 years after his reputation as an artist of world standing was first put beyond all doubt. Now we see him no longer as a unique and extraordinary figurative, surrealist, expressionist, but as an artist who has come at last into his own, as younger painters have come round again to the human figure as the central, creative preoccupation. As the subject matter is now more acceptable, so his personal and tormented re-invention and reconstruction of the figure no longer shocks. Ends Aug 18.

WEST GERMANY
Munich, Staatsgalerie modern: Kunst, Prinzregentenstr. 1: German Art since 1900, 200 paintings, prints and drawings by 15 artists from the private collection of the German Prince Franz of Bavaria. Among them: Beuys, Richter and Kiefer. Ends Sept 15.

Berlin, Nationalgalerie, Potsdamer Strasse 50: New acquisitions 75-85, offer 500 works from between 1820 to 1935. Some 300 important artists participate. Ends Aug 25.

ITALY
Florence: Museo Archeologico (Piazza SS. Annunziata)—The Etruscan Civilization: This is the first of a long series of exhibitions to mark The Year of the Etruscans, and shows the results of the most recent research into the Etruscan world. A useful history of this civilization's birth, development and decline. Ends Oct 20.

Rome: Palazzo Venezia: Five centuries of Music Publishing in Europe organized to mark European music and the fourth centenary of the founding of the Academy of Saint Cecilia, whose library has provided the bulk of the fascinating material. The time span and the number of manuscripts (and paintings) is enormous (roughly one room per century), but a useful shortened route has been provided through a series of attractive arched pavilions, containing the crown of the music publications of each period. Ends July 31.

BRUSSELS
Opera costumes from 1959 to the present including Zeffirelli's *Rigoletto*, Rosque's *Traviata* and Karl Ernst Herrmann's *Clemency of Titus*. Musée de Costumes et Dentelle. Until November.

Tony Cragg—a major exhibition of one of Britain's contemporary sculptors. Palais des Beaux Arts. Ends July 28.

PARIS
Benois: An important exhibition of the most sensitive of the impressionist painters, who were tired of glorifying the nude female body exposing the light comes to Paris from the Hayward Gallery, London. It consists of some 125 paintings and 50 Drawings, including *Le Bal du Moulin de la Galette* and *La Danse à Bougival*, Grand Palais, Closed Tue. Ends Sept 2 (201 5410).

NEW YORK
Metropolitan Museum: 30 objects from the period between the 16th and 19th World Fair in Paris demon-

strate the show's theme of Revivals and Explorations in European decorative arts. Ends Sept 5.

WASHINGTON
National Gallery: Ancient Art of the Americas: Woodland Indians: includes 151 pieces covering 5,000 years of sculpture, ceramics, copper and shell objects of the native Americans who lived in what is now the eastern half of the U.S. Ends Aug 4.

National Gallery (West Wing): 36 old master paintings from the Dulwich Picture Gallery are exhibited under the title *Collection for a King*, including works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Canaletto and Gainsborough. Ends Sept 2.

CHICAGO
Art Institute: Though Edouard Manet made etchings primarily to reproduce and publicize his paintings, he developed a unique style as shown in the 27 etchings in this special exhibit of more than a third of his total output of 75 etchings. Ends Sept 2.

TOKYO
Qing Dynasty Treasures from the Forbidden City, Peking. An important exhibition of 273 pieces showing the splendour and craftsmanship of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1912). Costumes, ornaments, ceramics, paintings plus imperial banquet room setting, all magnificently displayed in Tokyo's best department store art museum. Seibu Department Store, Ikebukuro Branch. Ends Aug 28, closed Thursdays.

FINANCIAL TIMES

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Thursday July 25 1985

End of a bad term

IT IS beginning to look like carelessness or, as some would say, the arrogance of power, in the early hours of Wednesday morning Mrs Thatcher's administration came very close to defeat in the House of Commons on the subject of top people's salaries: indeed, almost certainly would have been defeated if the Labour Party vote had turned out at full strength. Labour played very little part in the debate, except as spectators. It was the disaffection within the Tory ranks that mattered. It is almost as if the Conservative Party, with its huge majority since the General Election of 1983, has visibly lost its way and no longer knows collectively what it is doing.

There may be some excuses, though not many. The question of top people's pay is such a sensitive issue. It is necessary to present decisions with tact and reasoned argument. It is almost inexcusable to drip them out in a written parliamentary answer, as happened last week. It was just as careless of the Prime Minister not to mention them in the 1982 Committee of Tory back-benchers which she addressed last Thursday. For this time it should have been clear that it was the potential Tory rebels that counted: the MPs who have to explain the Government's approach to the teachers' dispute or the apparent cuts in the health service to their constituents. The Government was deservedly given a fright by its own supporters.

Morale

It may not matter too much in that Parliament is due to rise on Friday for the summer recess. By the autumn there will be other subjects to which Tory rebels will be directed. And yet it is not as if the handling of top people's salaries was a one-off tactical mistake. The record of this Government mis-

managing relatively small decisions is becoming rather long. The effect on its reputation is cumulative.

Another criticism, raised by Mr Peter Shore in the salaries debate, is the way the Government tries to buy off its potential critics with money. It did that when it sought to end trade unionism among the intelligence staff at Cheltenham, which was when many of its present troubles began. It has done it again to the new Service: morale is low, partly because the Government has been none too appreciative of civil servants in general, so the solution is to raise the pay at the top. It should not be surprising if that leads to public cynicism.

All that is a far cry from Mrs Thatcher's original aims. The Conservative Party manifesto of 1979 is worth re-reading. It set out to control inflation, public expenditure and public borrowing, and to change the balance of power between unions and management and between individual union members and union leaders. Much of that has been achieved, perhaps especially the change in the power of the unions. Even a future Labour administration might be grateful.

Roots

In the last two years, however, those clear and admirable aims seem to have been lost sight of. The Government no longer appears to have an obvious and catchy tune. It claims to be radical, yet gives away to pressure groups: for example, on student loans, on mortgage interest rate relief, on rent control. It now appears to be abandoning its resolution on the control of public spending. Indeed, the latest boast is how much has been spent rather than how much has been pruned.

It is very doubtful how far the Government will benefit from this. It may get the worst of both worlds: proclaiming to be radical while seeming to trim. The message has ceased to be clear. Yet that original manifesto had it all: a greater concentration on peasant agriculture, but the maintenance of existing facilities rather than the creation of new schemes. The scale of the rehabilitation work ahead, however, is formidable. The World Bank expects a decline in net capital flows to sub-Saharan Africa from an annual average of \$10.8bn in 1980-82 to \$5bn in 1985-87. At the same time Africa has all but exhausted its capacity to borrow its way out of trouble. As debt servicing has mounted from some \$4.1bn in 1981 to a forecast average of \$11.8bn from 1985 to 1987, so an increasing number of countries have been forced into rescheduling. The outcome provides limited relief. Zaire, once a by-word for financial irresponsibility, has for the past two-and-a-half years followed almost to the letter the IMF prescription but in 1984 paid out over \$190m more to medium- and long-term creditors than it received in new funds. As one major donor concluded, it is "obviously a situation incompatible with recovery or development."

Deterioration

In spite of efforts by some donors to raise their commitments to Africa—notably the World Bank's \$1.2bn special fund for the resources available to approximately \$60bn.

The danger in Africa is that the good work which is underway will come to naught if Western commitments fall off. The need for dialogue between donors and African government remains, along with close monitoring of the aid programme. So far the stick has been used with considerable effect. Now is the time to increase the size of the carrot.

Economic reform in Africa

THE ORGANISATION of African Unity (OAU) twenty-first summit which ended last weekend provided a refreshing change from the political squabbling and rhetorical flourishes which have marked most of the earlier gatherings. The African leaders, under the direction of Tanzania's President Julius Nyerere, concentrated instead on measures to put the continent's economic house in order, looking beyond the need for short-term famine relief to far-reaching structural changes with agricultural reforms at their heart. But the members also made a plea for greater Western support, whether in the form of direct aid or more generous terms for rescheduling of a crippling external debt, which deserves a sympathetic response.

If that was termed the Addis Ababa declaration was simply a statement of intent, and there was no evidence that African governments were already correcting the policies which for the most part have served them badly since independence, there would be grounds for scepticism about the merits of additional aid. Yet under the prompting of the World Bank and other major donors, and with the evidence of mismanagement before their eyes, more and more governments on the continent have made progress down the path of reform.

The measures include overhauling agriculture—governments in Addis Ababa were urged to double their budgetary allocation to the sector over the next five years to 25 per cent—directing more resources to small scale farmers, and either trimming inefficient state-owned enterprises or returning them to the private sector. Countries as diverse as Ghana and Zaire are taking the medicine administered by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and cutting budget deficits, reducing food and other subsidies and adjusting their over-valued currencies.

At the same time donors themselves are acknowledging some of the mistakes of the past, such as their support of grandiose industrial projects which often served, through tied aid, the donors' commercial interests rather than the recipient country's most press-

ing needs. Those needs, both parties increasingly accept, include not only a greater concentration on peasant agriculture, but the maintenance of existing facilities rather than the creation of new schemes. The scale of the rehabilitation work ahead, however, is formidable. The World Bank expects a decline in net capital flows to sub-Saharan Africa from an annual average of \$10.8bn in 1980-82 to \$5bn in 1985-87. At the same time Africa has all but exhausted its capacity to borrow its way out of trouble. As debt servicing has mounted from some \$4.1bn in 1981 to a forecast average of \$11.8bn from 1985 to 1987, so an increasing number of countries have been forced into rescheduling. The outcome provides limited relief. Zaire, once a by-word for financial irresponsibility, has for the past two-and-a-half years followed almost to the letter the IMF prescription but in 1984 paid out over \$190m more to medium- and long-term creditors than it received in new funds. As one major donor concluded, it is "obviously a situation incompatible with recovery or development."

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UK scientific research

An urgent new need to get value for money

By David Fishlock
 Science Editor

ONE OF Britain's research councils, curiously driven by cuts in government spending to seek alternative sources of cash, tells of the famous British company which offered to sell it a bank of valuable scientific data on waves for £100,000. The research council said it couldn't afford that sort of money.

Then another part of the same company asked the same research council for help. The scientists had the data it wanted but the company balked at the fee—a mere £100.

Industry's schizophrenic attitude to the value of scientific research—as illustrated by this story—is a major worry for top scientists who for the first time in their careers are finding they must hustle for money. Their once bountiful sponsor—the taxpayer—which used to increase budgets automatically each year, is now taking a much more hard-headed approach to this area of spending.

The question of spending on UK science—is it too much or too little, and is it managed effectively—is also becoming an increasingly lively political issue as reflected by yesterday's Report of the Education, Science and Arts Committee of the House of Commons. This recommends that the Government should relieve the immediate financial crisis faced by the science establishment but it says nothing on the key question of whether budgets are being managed.

The backbone of British science is the science budget, voted by Parliament, and spent mainly by five research councils representing broad swathes of scientific disciplines in the universities and polytechnics. Its focus is the "pure" and "strategic" hands of the research spectrum, as the sketch shows.

An Advisory Board for the Research Councils (ABRC) advises Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary for Education and Science on the size of the budget and how it is to be shared between the five councils. In addition, they have a small income—about 5 per cent—from research contracts placed by industry, Government and charities.

Professor Sir David Phillips, chairman of the ABRC and effectively Sir Keith's chief scientific adviser, argues that although the science budget appears to have been growing since 1981, it has in fact been falling. This is because more and more cash has been needed for overheads such as superannuation; and for higher subscriptions to international science projects such as CERN, the particle physics research centre in Geneva, due to the fall in the value of the pound.

Sir David says the science budget is being cut at least 5 per cent less research for Britain than in 1981, and he expects it to fall at least another 4 per cent by 1990—a 10 per cent drop over the decade. Sir John Kingman, the mathematician who heads the biggest of the five, the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC), sees the councils as "guardians of the future prosperity of the country" but says Britain is slipping into the second division of international science.

Both scientists firmly believe that the Government must find more money for the research councils.

The case for more cash for UK science has three points, according to Sir David Phillips:

- While scientists themselves must become more proficient in picking priorities—seek better

value-for-money—it is unrealistic to try to restrict science to too narrow a base.

• The growth points of science and technology typically attract some of the best minds. If not funded, this will seek satisfaction overseas, as is already happening.

• Britain's major industrial competitors are currently increasing investment in science, particularly in strategic research areas, of importance to industry. To these ends, the science chiefs are asking for another £85m spread over three years (an extra £15m on the present budget of about £600m rising to £80m, then £40m more).

The Government's attitude as represented by Sir Keith Joseph, has tended to be that it was not prepared to make a special case of science. Scientists, he says, should look more closely at how efficiently they are spending money, and their commitment to time-honoured but perhaps flagging sectors of science.

Traditionally, academic science has been largely self-policing. It has backed what it judged to be the brightest ideas for advancing science, selected by the "peer review" system of self-criticism by panels of experts drawn from both within and outside the subject in question.

Its attitude can be summed up by the story of the British Nobel prize winner who, when ever called upon to account for his activities, simply replied: "I am thinking." One big question is how many people Britain can afford to pay just to think. The "peer review" system, he says, should be chosen.

The parliamentary select committee which has been examining the case for more cash and the science chiefs' worries have found both well justified. The report advises the Government to shoulder some of the costs which lie beyond the control of the research councils, such as the extra costs of superannuation, of restructuring the 20-year-old research councils, and of sudden increases in subscriptions to international research pro-

grammes occasioned by currency fluctuations.

The MPs also recognise the validity of arguments about the rapidly rising cost of the latest scientific tools—the so-called "sophistication factor"—of which the science Ministry is also painfully aware. It wants the Government to find more money simply to keep the tools of British science brightly honed.

The MPs venture no comment on the efficiency with which science is policing its own activities, beyond saying they believe in general that

RESEARCH COUNCIL BUDGETS 1985-86*

	£m
Science and Engineering Research Council	298.0
Medical Research Council	122.3
Natural Environment Research Council	67.3
Agricultural and Food Research Council	50.3
Economic and Social Research Council	23.6
Other beneficiaries	22.4
	583.9

* Contribution from the Science Budget.

"decisions on specific priorities should be left to those most qualified to judge their worth and relative priority within the resources available: the research councils and the ABRC."

They add a warning to government, however, that if the science budget continues at present levels, other major areas of research "will inevitably be scrutinised in as rigorous a manner" as was done by Sir John Kendrew's critique of particle physics last month, which recommended severe cuts from 1990.

The implication of the report for the Government is that the science chiefs should receive enough extra cash to relieve the immediate financial crisis they face, but not so much as to remove the incentive to scrutinise how they spend it, or for

seeking new sponsors other than the taxpayer. The two are, of course, inter-related—more efficient research management should attract more sponsors of research.

How to measure the utility and productivity of scientific research—"value for money"—has been a challenge ever since science became big business, demanding expensive tools such as atom-smashers, satellites and computers.

In times of expanding research budgets most scientists, when challenged to say of what use a piece of basic

research might prove to be, are apt to take refuge in Benjamin Franklin's famous rejoinder, "Of what use is a baby?"

Academics, of course, have their own scale of intellectual values for different sciences. Pure mathematics and theoretical physics head the pecking order. Geology and botany come a long way down.

But the low-ranking disciplines, once largely descriptive, can make a major contribution to the economy. The search for oil, gas and mineral wealth has made geology a much more disciplined science, and the requirements for burying nuclear waste will take it another step forward. In consequence, such sciences have also become very expensive to conduct, as they accepted the value of such tools as computers, remote sensors

and modern analytical techniques. Almost every science now needs the electron microscope. In 1965 the best electron microscope cost about £12,000. Today the best costs between £250,000 and £1.5m—a good example of the "sophistication factor" at work.

One research team, however, refuses to accept the "Franklin rejoinder" is a pair of social scientists at Sussex University who, with all the brushiness and naivety of youth, have been challenging some past research council investments in big tools such as telescopes and atom-smashers.

John Irvine and Ben Martin of the Science Policy Research Unit have infuriated the scientific establishment with their outspoken criticisms, based on their own system of analysing the output of research tools and the number of times other researchers cited their findings. Their work drew top-level criticism that it was not rigorous by the standards of the very scientists it sought to assess. It was accused of being poorly supervised research, over-promoted by the pair in their own quest for more research funds.

But whatever its weaknesses, it was certainly timely and attracted widespread attention, not least from the research council managers themselves. Some placed research contracts for further evaluations of output and productivity.

Scientists also need better ways of measuring what is going on. Of the best ideas they can still afford to back, how can they be sure they are backing the ones in the best long-term interest of British science and the advanced technologies which depend crucially upon it—information technology, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, for instance?

In fact, the individual research councils are approaching the matter of management in their own ways. The two which expect budgets to be most severely cut, the Agricultural and Food Research Council (AFRC) and the

Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)—have already produced businesslike corporate plans for the next five years, showing how they propose to absorb the cuts.

SERC, the biggest, which takes half the science budget, but will suffer only a slight trimming next year, is also preparing a corporate plan for release this autumn. Its problem is that it believes it has a strong case for expansion in such economically important sectors as engineering, science and biotechnology, but can see no way of raising the cash short of abandoning entirely some expensive activity such as atom-smashing or astronomy or space science.

NERC, on the other hand, is proposing what to its scientists are ominously commercial changes. Under its corporate plan for the next five years it will re-organise its activities into three broad sectors: earth science, marine science, and terrestrial and freshwater science. Each will have a scientific director charged with picking priority topics and setting objectives.

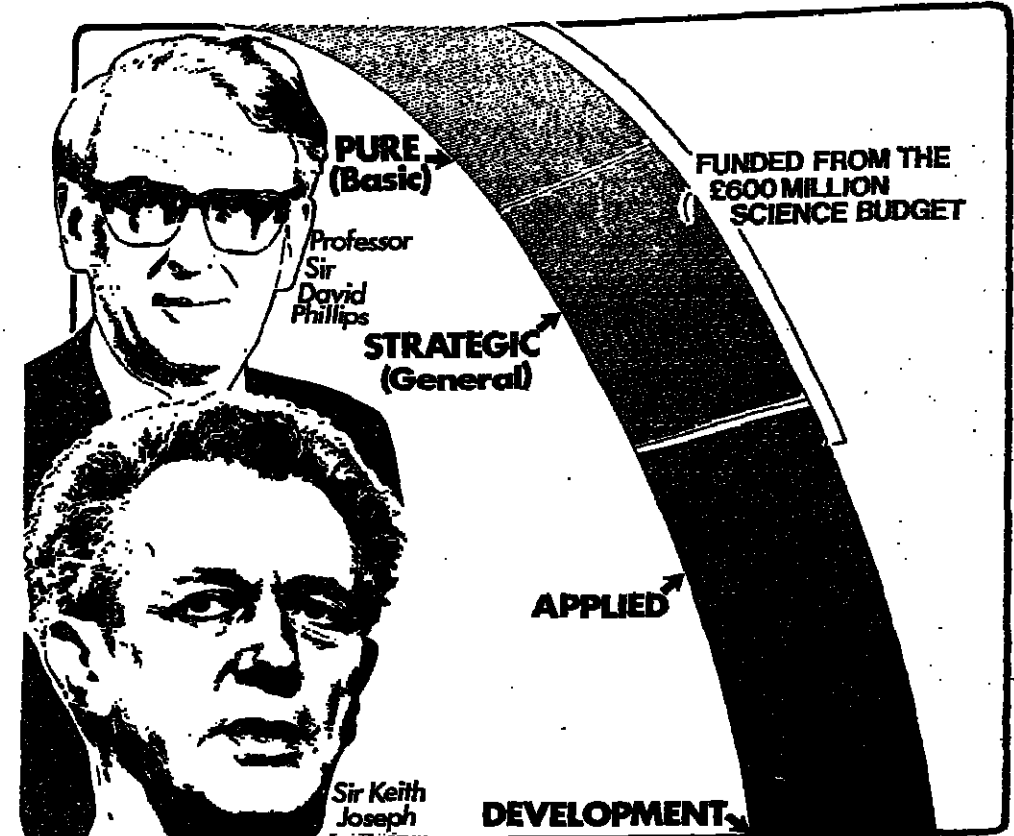
High in their minds will be concepts "which haven't been in fashion," says Mr Hugh Fish, NERC's chairman—such as value-for-money. Moreover, if something is not making progress he expects them to stop it.

Mr Fish has given his top staff to the end of the year to find ways of judging value-for-money criteria for assessing output and productivity.

All the research councils have been strongly urged by Sir David Phillips and the ABRC to face the question of value-for-money. The ABRC itself has commissioned an appraisal of three different methods of citation analysis—the Sussex one and others used in the U.S. and France—by the ESRC.

Even the Royal Society, bastion of all that is pure in science, has found itself forced to take the question of productivity very seriously in its own study of the health of British science.

*The future of the science budget. House of Commons Paper 46-1. 50 p. 25p.



IBA seeks ban on Profumo film

Fresh from its intervention in the Dallas affair, the Independent Broadcasting Authority seems about to get embroiled in another controversy.

Lord Thomson, IBA chairman, and John Winton, director, have been trying to stop Zenith, the film production subsidiary of Central Television, making a film about the Profumo affair.

The film, *High Places*, is part of a programme of five films, costing about £15m, announced by Zenith in May at the Cannes Film Festival.

Thomson, who was Labour MP for Dundee East from 1952-1972, told a meeting of the IBA programme policy committee, attended by all the ITV managing directors, that the Authority would not be pleased if the film were made.

This line has been pursued since in discussions between Winton and Bob Phillips, managing director of Central, the ITV contractors for the Midlands. Winton is understood to have pressed for a ban on this "unsavoury" subject.

The intervention, which is seen as editorial interference in film which has not even been

cast yet and is aimed primarily at the cinema market, has angered senior ITV executives. The IBA said yesterday it was a matter of good taste rather than editorial interference. The film, it said, might eventually be offered to the ITV network.

Central is, however, going ahead with the film. Scripted by Laurence Marks and Morris Gran, it will look at the Profumo affair through the eyes of Stephen Ward, the osteopath at the centre of the scandal, who was brought to trial at the Old Bailey and committed suicide.

Men and Matters

Its underlying theme will be the strength of the old boy network and the political pressure it can exert.

Thames Water, nowadays a lively concern with ambitions to be privatised, and the international accountants Coopers and Lybrand, hope soon to be raising glasses (unlikely they will contain water) to the success of their first joint overseas venture.

They are bidding for a contract to review the water sector strategy for a developing African nation in one of the arid areas of the continent.

Both bodies see a booming world business in water management. They have agreed in principle that the African contract should be the first of many joint ventures.

Coopers has an office in the prospective client country, Thames, says managing director Ken West, is thinking of building up its team of experts for international work to between 100 and 150.

Roy Watts, chairman of Thames Water, believes his 15m customers will have much to be thankful for if Thames achieves its target of winning £50m worth of overseas water

business within the next three years.

That would represent £5m profit. Watts says: "With that money I could take 1 per cent off every water bill—and that is what I want to do."

City suits

The Takeover Panel, in its annual report last month, complained that, as a result of the growing competition between merchant banks advising on takeover bids, the panel was being bombarded with objections, complaints, and stalling devices over "nuisance".

The sparks flying from the bid by the Burton Group for Debenhams have now pushed this development one stage further. David Cohen, the corporate tax partner of City solicitors Nicholson, Graham and Jones, recently published a technical article on the taxation of shareholders' perks.

After a detailed explanation of one principle he gave this example, "Suppose, for example, that a Burton Group shareholder uses his 20 per cent discount (a perk) to buy for £80 a suit which Burtons is selling for £100. He could have bought the same suit at Debenhams for £85. His deemed benefit is only £15—not £20."

The reference was spotted by Russell Edey, a director of merchant bank N. M. Rothschild, who is leading the Debenhams defence.

He tracked down Cohen and asked whether he was acting for any of the parties involved in the takeover battle. Told "unfortunately no," he asked whether any of Cohen's family were in that position. Again "no."

Edey then warned Cohen that his article breached the Takeover Code. He said a Debenhams shareholder reading the article would think Burtons offered a discount to share-

holders but that Debenhams did not. The shareholder might therefore be wrongly induced to buy shares from Burtons.

Edey has yet to take the matter any further.

But, for the record, the price-sensitive consumer should not deduce from the example above that a Debenhams suit will always be 15 per cent cheaper than the same suit sold by Burtons.

Parlour politics

A political tradition seems to be developing in the parlour of merchant bankers. Lazard's former Minister Sir John Nott returned to merchant banking two years ago as a Lazard director (in the 1960s he was with Warburgs), and he recently became Lazard's chairman.

Now Andrew Mitchell, aged 29, a former president of the Cambridge Union who specialises in export finance at the bank, has been selected for a prime Tory seat.

He is the prospective Conservative candidate for Gedling, Notts, where the sitting member Sir Philip Holland enjoyed a majority just short of 15,000 at the last general election. Holland is retiring at the end of this Parliament.

Mitchell cut his political teeth fighting Sunderland South in a by-election last year and, although the loser, found some satisfaction in seeing the Labour majority cut by nearly 50 per cent.

Of the male members of the Mitchell family he is the only one not working in the family wine business (which includes the El Vino wine bars). "The truth is I have the worst palate in the family," he tells me.

ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT

Responses to U.S. budget cuts

By Samuel Brittan

PAUL VOLCKER's testimony to Congress could be summarised as: "Enough is enough."

The U.S. monetary guidelines were more than breached — they were hurled aside in the first half of 1985; and short-term dollar interest rates fell by 3 to 4 percentage points from last autumn onwards.

Partly as a result, although the dollar remains extremely high on any reasonable basis, its effective exchange rate has fallen by 10 per cent from its February high point; and it has fallen by 10 per cent from its twenty strong currencies such as the Deutsche Mark.

What the Fed chairman effectively told Congress was that he had gone as far as he intended in reducing interest rates and easing down the dollar, until there is some parallel action by Congress to reduce the U.S. budget deficit.

There is to be no attempt to reverse the recent monetary overshoot. But from now on monetary growth is meant to slow down drastically, and there will be no further attempts to ease interest rates downwards at the expense of monetary objectives.

This new and much stricter course is, of course, based on the Fed's view that real GNP growth will recover to an annualised rate of 4 per cent — more in the second half of 1985.

Should the growth forecasts prove much too optimistic, and recession threaten, the Fed on past form would move towards monetary ease again. But until either a clear and present danger emerges on this front, or Congress moves on the deficit, when the Fed will stick to a tight monetary course. Indeed, real growth of the extent forecast, or further sharp falls in the dollar, could easily lead to a rebound towards higher interest rates.

Underlying the decisions of Paul Volcker and a majority of his colleagues is the view that America's amazing good fortune with inflation could withstand the recent 10 per cent fall in the dollar, but could not withstand another early fall of that magnitude, unless there is some action on the fiscal front.

Meanwhile, Rudolph Fenner, Director of the Congressional Budget Office, gave the House Banking Committee eloquent

FOURTH YEAR EFFECT OF CUT IN U.S. BUDGET DEFICIT OF 2 PER CENT GNP

CHANGES MEASURED IN PERCENTAGES OF GNP

	(a) Unchanged monetary targets in U.S. and elsewhere	(b) Unchanged U.S. monetary targets, other countries' interest rate changes	(c) U.S. monetary relaxation, other countries' targets held elsewhere	(d) U.S. monetary relaxation, other countries' targets held elsewhere
U.S.				
Real GNP	-0.7 to -1.8	-0.9 to -1.5	0	0 to 0.8
Short term interest rates (p.p. points)	-2.1 to -2.4	-2.6 to -2.7	-0.5 to -0.8	-0.7 to -0.75
Effective exchange rate	-0.8 to -5.0	1.3 to 1.5	-0.9 to -18.0	0.4 to 1.1
Current balance (\$bn)	14 to 46	37 to 51	13 to 66	10 to 67
Price level	-0.2 to -1.6	-0.3 to -1.8	-0.2 to 1.7	-0.4 to -0.3
OTHER MAJOR OECD COUNTRIES				
Real GNP	-0.5 to -1.3	0.2 to 0.7	-0.4 to -2.9	0.8 to 2.3
Short term interest rates (p.p. points)	-0.9 to -1.2	-2.6 to -2.7	-1.0 to -3.0	-0.7 to -0.75
Domestic prices	-1.1 to -1.6	0.3 to -0.5	-0.8 to -4.5	0.6 to 1.2

Based on Fed and OECD medium term views.

and convincing testimony on July 18 on the interaction between the U.S. Budget and current account deficits. His best guess is that there is now sufficient alarm to prevent the Budget Office's worst fears of the Federal deficit rising to \$300bn per annum by 1990. On the other hand, it is likely to get stuck at somewhere around its present \$200bn level, which will—with luck—allow it to fall very gradually as a proportion of GNP.

Whether this counts as a "cut" or not depends on what you had previously been expecting to happen. As with British public spending, cuts are largely in the mind.

A reduction in the U.S. Budget deficit is nevertheless enough of a talking point to be worth investigating. The June OECD Economic Outlook had an unusually detailed analysis of the likely consequences.

● A sustained reduction of the U.S. budget deficit, achieved through fiscal contraction, would of itself reduce U.S. GNP in the short to medium term.

● Activity in the rest of the OECD would thereby be weakened both by lower U.S. activity and by a reduction in net

exports resulting from increased U.S. international competitiveness consequent upon the lower dollar.

● Endogenous reductions in interest rates outside the U.S. with money growth and fiscal policies unchanged, would be insufficient to offset the effects, noted under (d) above, on non-U.S. activity.

● The U.S. current account deficit would clearly improve, but on most assumptions would remain substantial for some years.

The most controversial of these conclusions are the fifth and perhaps the first. If higher exchange rates against the dol-

lars shown in the table provide a method of investigating the consequences of changes in the U.S. budget (and of other hypothetical changes) of value whether one believes the detailed estimates or not.

If there were ever to be some attempt at international economic management, grids such as the one in the table would need to be taken very seriously.

The estimates are derived from OECD's own Interlink model and the multi-country model of the Fed's. The Japanese EPA model, also consulted by OECD, shows broadly similar results. Simulations are for a cut in the U.S. deficit

other countries, who would suffer less inflation, but also enjoy less growth.

If on the other hand, other countries responded by matching U.S. interest rate cuts, even at the expense of faster monetary growth, then the GNP lag would be transformed into a modest gain, and inflation might still fall slightly even outside the U.S.

Neither of these cases is likely. For it is inconceivable that the U.S. authorities would allow a prolonged growth recession as a consequence of Congressional virtue in cutting the Budget deficit. A much more likely assumption is that shown in the third column, where the Fed cuts interest rates enough to offset lower Federal spending or greater tax payments, to offset any consequential adverse effect on U.S. growth.

In this third case the dollar, and the U.S. current account deficit both decline. But there are snags for other countries. European interest rates drop, but so too do their growth rates.

In one of the models (the Fed's) they do so very seriously and in greater measure than in the first column, where no U.S. monetary relaxation is assumed. The clue to this seeming paradox is that the Fed relaxation is assumed to lead to a larger fall in the dollar,

which deals a blow to European and Japanese competitiveness in world markets.

The crude alternative for countries outside the U.S. is to allow their interest rates to fall with U.S. rates as shown in the fourth and final column. This gives such a stimulus to worldwide activity that the U.S. current deficit still shrinks, even though the dollar does not fall.

The possible danger of this course is shown in the final entry of the fourth column, namely a higher inflation rate outside the U.S. True the effect appears modest, but long experience of such models should tell their users not to be reassured by effects which seem small, if their direction is wrong.

The obvious middle way for the Europeans and the Japanese is to steer between the policies of the third and fourth columns; in other words, not to stick religiously to monetary targets, but not just to copy U.S. interest rate movements either. If countries outside the U.S. were following a policy of stabilising Nominal GDP, they could respond to the fall in inflation shown in the third column by some stimulus to output, which does not go as far as the inflationary boost of the final column.

This still leaves the question of whether such a stimulus should be fiscal or monetary. If you believe that even a large fall in the dollar, of the kind shown in the third column, would not have any inflationary effects in the U.S., provided only there is a major cut in the Budget deficit, then the Europeans have a wide choice.

If, on the other hand, the fall in the dollar either is inflationary, or is perceived in the U.S. to be so, then good neighbourliness and political prudence (as well as concern for their export industries) would narrow the European choice, in favour of the lower interest rate option.

You do not have to be in favour of "locomotives," "convoys," incomes policies, or inflationary demand management to see the benefits of modifying one country's policies in line with another's behaviour and the common benefits of playing a co-operative game.

Lombard
Wealth creation
and top pay

By Anatole Kaletsky

YESTERDAY'S parliamentary rebellion on public sector pay was an event of rare poetic justice. The Government has become a victim of its own successes.

In an economy with truly competitive labour markets, competitive labour markets would prevail automatically. But there is a crucial distinction between financial and other service industries. Not only is the output of the financial industry invisible; much of it is also unproductive in a strict sense. Producing a haircut or a good television programme is obviously a wealth-creating activity. But trading in the secondary markets for stocks or currencies is mostly a zero-sum game — one man's profit is another man's loss. Secondary markets are only productive insofar as they contribute to the financial system's two essential economic functions: allocating capital to its most productive uses and enabling savers to minimise risks of direct investment in productive assets.

One of the fascinating aspects of the present City pay explosion is that most of the benefits are going to the people whose work has the least direct connection with these two socially useful functions. The huge salaries are not being offered to humble clearing bankers or even pension fund managers who actually lend money to productive industries. High interest rates and deflationary economic policies around the world have so distorted resource allocation that genuinely productive capital formation has become rather unattractive in relation to investment in risk-free government bonds — investors and dealers in such instruments are living off the wealth created by past generations without contributing anything to future capital. Simultaneously, liberalisation of capital markets around the world has greatly increased the level of financial institutions in effect to charge higher insurance premiums for controlling the risks which the financial markets themselves create.

Measured against the financial system's genuinely "productive" functions of allocating capital and minimising risk, excessive salaries are no more justified by wealth creation in the City than they are in Whitehall.

The service industries generally have a simple answer to

Liability for
unsafe goods

From the Director-General,
Confederation of British
Industry

Sir.—The Consumers' Association (July 15) rejects both common sense and natural justice in its ill-considered attack on British industry over product liability.

It is a gross over-simplification to say that manufacturers oppose a C.A. legislation of the kind which retailers already bear, since the directive puts risks on manufacturers of a totally different order of magnitude from those facing retailers.

And it is disingenuous to say that the costs of product liability will be passed on to the consumer anyway. The evidence is that product liability insurance for industries in high-risk areas, such as pharmaceuticals and aerospace, is either limited or not available at all. If companies cannot insure against such risks, they will be reluctant to innovate, to everyone's loss.

In addition, where strict liability does exist, for example in the case of pharmaceuticals in West Germany, the law requires that a limit must be set on the total amount of damages which can be paid out on claims. This is a clear recognition that there has to be some ceiling on the risk which either the company or insurance can bear.

Unpalatable though it may be, the fact is that in a major catastrophe there can be no guarantee, at least under any system involving tort litigation — that all those suffering harm will be compensated. There is no way in which claims can be met once insurance cover and the company's assets have been exhausted.

Rachel Waterhouse offers a simplistic solution to complex issues. But it is only necessary to look at the analysis and detail in the Product Liability Bill currently under consideration in the U.S. to acknowledge that there are no easy answers in this area.

Industry wants to market safe goods but society demands new, more sophisticated and cheaper products. Surely what nobody wants is a system which inhibits industrial innovation and impedes competitiveness while leaving consumers no better off than they were before.

(Sir) Terence Beckett,
103, New Oxford Street, WC1.

Londoners are subsidised

From Mr E. A. Hunter
Sir.—For many years the Financial Times, economists and others have advised against blanket regional aid programmes and incentives pointing out the distorting effect these have on people and the economy.

It occurs to me, following

Letters to the Editor

your report (July 15) that the London allowance is now £1,464 a year (say 10 to 15 per cent of gross modal salaries), that the London allowance is a blanket regional aid incentive. As such this allowance distorts the economy by:

● Encouraging people to remain in or near London;

● Mitigating against free staff movements;

● Acting as a form of cross subsidy from the "depressed northern consumers" to Londoners.

E. A. Hunter,
2 Beaumont Road,
Sole, Cheshire

Bank loans and the JMB affair

From Mr A. N. Watson

Sir.—I read with concern your report (July 20), on the Bank of England's proposals flowing from the failure of Johnson Matthey Bankers. A safeguard mentioned to avoid banks "having too many eggs in one basket" is for them to report to the Bank of England (not always known for its quick action) any loan made to a borrower or related company which exceeds 10 per cent of the bank's capital, with an overriding limit of 25 per cent. However, there are questions which have to be answered.

How can the reporting of a loan commitment already entered into be effective in avoiding problems associated with financial failure of a borrower? At best, the need to report will be seen as a sanction. At worst, the course for disaster will have been set and

the Bank of England will be seen as having given approval for the infringement as it will be unable to correct the situation. This is because publicity could raise doubts concerning the borrower's financial position and bring about the event which one is trying to avoid.

Could the solution be for banks to take into account only so much of a loan (or total loan to related borrowers) as does not exceed 10 per cent of the bank's capital in deciding the bank's financial solvency? This type of system applies to insurance companies which also have to ensure that they do not have excessive investment concentration.

If this was done, any loan requirement exceeding a bank's limit would need to be shared with another bank. That would spread the effect of possible failure to the ultimate benefit of both banking community and the investing public. Furthermore, the Bank of England could be left to consider the solvency and trading position of the banks on a more clear-cut and dispassionate basis.

A. N. Watson,
Appleside Cottage,
Lodge Lane,
Salisbury,
near Redhill,
Surrey.

Language barrier to export sales

From the MEP for Hertfordshire (Con)

Sir.—How right Sir Philip de Zulueta is (Letters, July 22), in his view of the need for massive improvement in British businessmen's knowledge of foreign

languages, is indicated by a discussion I had recently with a Finnish industrialist.

He told me, part in anger, part in sorrow and despair, of a British salesman who came to see him about a substantial purchase of components, with good prospects of a long-term market. "He couldn't even speak French," he said. "I didn't really expect him to speak Dutch, but I won't buy from any firm that sends me a salesman who can't speak one of my country's official languages."

The lack of knowledge by so many of our salesmen of the language and customs of the country they try to sell to may well be as important a reason as the relative stagnation of our exports to our European Community partners in recent years: they have stuck at 44 per cent of our total exports, following a spectacular rise from 28 per cent in the earlier years of our membership.

That stagnation may well continue even if we bring the £ into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System ("when the time is ripe"), unless we also take steps to see that our businessmen (not only salesmen) can speak at least one of the main European Community languages.

Derek Prag,
The Euro-Centre,
Holford, Herts.

Figures are facts

From Mr D. C. Damant

Sir.—It is Mr Cornford (July 18) who claims that the Efficient Market Theory debate is metaphysical. It is in fact empirical.

The statistics for the performance of institutional portfolios are there for all to see.

David Damant,
Quilter Goodson,
31-45, Gresham Street, EC2.

The effects of a fall in the dollar

From CIST-Wharton
Econometric Forecasting
Associates

Sir.—With reference to Samuel Brittan's article, "How to respond to a fall in the dollar" (July 18), you may be interested in the findings of a study carried out by Wharton Econometrics (Could Europe grow faster? May 1985). The Wharton study has the advantage of highlighting the impact on the developing countries, as well as the OECD area.

Using the Wharton World Model we examined the effects of a sudden fall in the dollar by 16.7 per cent below the base forecast in 1985 and by 29.4 per cent in 1986, before gradually returning to the base level by 1990. In the face of inflationary pressures and capital outflows U.S. monetary conditions tighten, with a consequent increase in interest rates. Outside the U.S., monetary condi-

tions ease correspondingly as a result of lower inflation and capital inflows.

The results indicate that, in general, changes in net trade positions dominate changes in credit conditions. In the U.S., GDP is 2.4 per cent higher than base in 1985 and 4.9 per cent in 1986, as the constraint on growth imposed by the trade deficit eases. Thanks to tighter monetary conditions inflation is hardly affected. The boost to GDP is rather greater than implied in the OECD study quoted by Samuel Brittan, and the inflationary effects much lower. In Europe, by contrast, GDP is 0.9 per cent below base in 1985 and 1.9 per cent lower in 1986. Japan also suffers from a deterioration of its competitive position.

Looking further ahead than the OECD, by 1990 differing trends emerge. In the U.S. output is not significantly different

from the base forecast, faster growth in the earlier years compensating for lower growth in the later years. In Europe, loss of competitiveness marginally outweighs the beneficial effects of lower interest rates and inflation; in 1990, GDP is just below its baseline level. The long-run effect on Japan is similar, while Latin America is a marginal gainer.

Interestingly, the biggest losers of all turn out to be the developing countries of the Pacific Basin, which are highly dependent on exports of manufactures. By 1990 foreign GDP in this region amounts to 3.4 per cent of baseline output. This is a reminder that these countries are highly dependent on the continuing expansion of their export markets, particularly in the U.S.

Neil Blake and Charles Burton,
28, Lower Belgrave Street, SW1.

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday July 25 1985

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NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT PROJECT MAY BE RESCUED

Lear Fan survival hopes rise

BY ANDREW FISHER IN LONDON AND PAUL TAYLOR IN NEW YORK

THE chances of finding a rescuer for Lear Fan, the Northern Ireland executive aircraft project that collapsed in May after receiving £57m (\$79.8m) of public money, have been increased by moves to set up a new company with rights to the carbon-fibre aircraft's technology.

The scheme, the result of negotiations in New York last week involving Mr Michael Jordan of accountants Cork Gully, the UK Government-appointed receiver to the British arm of Lear Fan, and others with interests in the company, is aimed at lifting the threat of a maze of lawsuits over the technology rights.

It is understood that representatives of all the Lear Fan group's creditors agreed to drop lawsuits filed in the U.S. in return for a stake in the new company.

The dropping of the lawsuits and the settling of disputes over rights to Lear Fan technology - the project involves 62 separate technology

agreements - and royalties from any future sales, are seen as crucial if the new company is to attract investors willing to proceed with the project.

A rescuer would be able simply to buy the new company, in which there will be a big British Government stake, through the Northern Ireland Development Board, rather than face a series of legal battles. "So there is hope," Mr Jordan said.

The new company will now embrace the Belfast assets, which, like those of the U.S. arm in Reno, Nevada, were mothballed when the project collapsed. The Belfast factory will remain in the hands of the receiver.

When Lear Fan Ltd, one of the seven or more companies comprising the Lear Fan group in the U.S., filed for Chapter Seven bankruptcy in Denver on June 3, in listed assets of just \$7m and liabilities of \$475m. Those included a \$300m lawsuit filed by a group of California doc-

tors who were among the original group of private partners assembled by Oppenheimer and Co, the Wall Street investment bank which is a subsidiary of Mercantile House in the UK, to provide initial venture capital for the project.

Under a Chapter Seven filing, a trustee is normally appointed and empowered to sell assets to satisfy creditors. Several other Lear Fan units have filed for protection from their creditors under Chapter 11 of the U.S. bankruptcy code, which allows a company to continue operating while it attempts to formulate a restructuring plan.

At the New York meeting were lawyers representing the receiver, Oppenheimer, other investors, Mrs Moya Lear (widow of Mr William Lear, designer of the Lear Fan aircraft), two Saudi princes who were big investors in the project, and the Chapter Seven trustee of Lear in the U.S. Their clients still have to agree to the scheme.

Mr John Aycoth, a spokesman for Mrs Lear, said she was "quite pleased" with the plan.

If and when the new company is formed, the U.S. arm now subject to a Chapter Seven filing would switch to the more flexible Chapter 11.

Mr Jordan said several U.S. and other companies had shown preliminary interest in reviving the Lear project after the moves to set up the company and thus split out the liabilities from the assets.

"Now we can see the way ahead to try to get into some serious discussions on the future of the project," Mr Jordan said. But the overall market for executive aircraft was privatised, merged or closed down.

Mr Jordan said last week that important state enterprises such as Petrobras, the oil giant, Siderbrás, the heavily indebted steel holding company, and Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, CVRD, the highly successful mining company, would not be affected.

Speculation over CVRD's future has been rife because of heavy share issues it has recently made on the local stock exchange, reducing the Government's control.

Reduction of the Government's presence in the economy, to free scarce resources for the administration's planned doubling of social spending next year, was a central theme of last Monday's nationwide television broadcast by President José Sarney.

In addition to putting new life into a privatisation programme, originally announced under the former Figueiredo Government, the new civilian Government intends to provide food, as yet unspecified, incentives to private industry.

It also plans to reduce waste in government spending by consolidating its annual budget estimates into a single, integrated bill. That is scheduled to take place later this year when the 1986 budget is presented to Congress.

Four years ago, the former Government announced much more far-reaching intention to privatise a total of 140 companies in state hands. The plan was almost a total flop, both because of the way it was handled and the fact that the economy was about to enter into deepest recession this century.

A handful of profitable companies were sold off, bringing in about \$50m. But in March the new Government inherited a list of 47 companies the state would like to sell. Those include costly loss-makers such as Aesata, a special steel maker, and Carabita Metals, Brazil's leading copper refinery.

Brazil to speed up sale of state-held companies

By Andrew Whitley
in Rio de Janeiro

THE BRAZILIAN Government is to speed up privatisation of a long list of productive companies in state hands, as part of its drive to reduce the role of the state in the economy.

Sr Antonio Frota Neto, a presidential spokesman, said yesterday a Bill would be sent to Congress before the end of the year giving the Government the means to implement an ambitious privatisation programme.

To avoid depressing the potential market, the list of those companies being sold off is being kept confidential at present. But the Planning Ministry is known to have drawn up its own list of 77 enterprises to be privatised, merged or closed down.

Mr José Sarney, the Planning Minister, said last week that important state enterprises such as Petrobras, the oil giant, Siderbrás, the heavily indebted steel holding company, and Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, CVRD, the highly successful mining company, would not be affected.

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Indesit close to receivership

Continued from Page 1

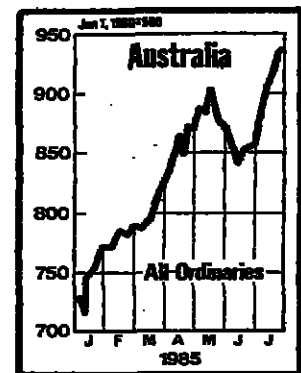
Industry Ministry officials on Tuesday night, Indesit proposed reducing the workforce to 1,400. But according to a ministry official, Indesit provided no restructuring plan and no proposal for a capital injection. Trade unions immediately attacked the new Indesit management and called for receivership and the protection of the Prodi Law.

Sig Passi said yesterday that the shareholders, who together control 53 per cent of Indesit - the Campinani family with 21 per cent plus unidentified UK and Swiss investors - are unable to provide any fresh capital. Last week, following the announcement of a £100bn 1984 loss, the company decided to write down its capital from £75bn to £40bn.

Indesit has been searching for outside partners for the past year, but the Italians who were involved in discussions - Arisim and Candy - have backed away. Sig Passi also said that other companies from the U.S. (such as Westinghouse, Whirlpool and General Electric) were showing no interest in a rescue.

THE LEX COLUMN

A glint of gold down under



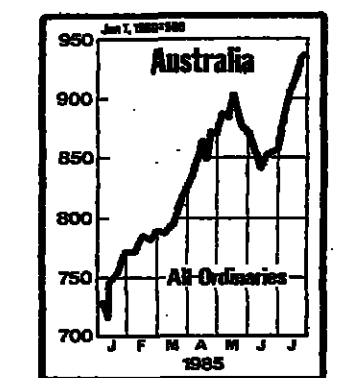
The way Australian investors are pumping money into their own gold shares, one might think that South Africa's political system was about to collapse altogether. Just yesterday, the Australian gold index rose over 15 points - or 1.8 per cent - on the theory that the worse the political news is from Johannesburg, the more money will move to other markets.

In practice, Australian investors are still waiting for the flood of foreign interest in their gold stocks - and they may have to wait a while longer. Most London gold funds had taken all the money they wanted out of South Africa long before the current troubles. And the Americans, who are still heavily invested there, probably have too much to lose. Since their stakes are so large, any sizeable selling would seriously affect the price of the remainder of their shares.

If Australian gold shares do not shine, though, it will be because they are being eclipsed by the rest of the market. In the last six weeks, the All-Ordinaries Index has risen some 10 per cent, and since the beginning of the year, over 25 per cent. Not that the economic news is particularly good; if anything, investors should be worried by the threat of price and wage inflation caused by the devaluation of the Australian dollar. But the rash of corporate activity combined with an upsurge in foreign investment attracted by the apparently overvalued currency have been enough to push the index to record levels.

Since the beginning of the year, takeover activity has been so prolific - and intricate - that the rumours have hardly been able to keep pace with the facts. Not only have share prices risen as a result of actual or potential bids, the successful takeovers have also released more cash to be reinvested. And in a relatively liquid market, the heavy demand from domestic and foreign investors can only be satisfied at what look like inflated prices.

This may all sound like a bubble waiting to burst; and the surface tension will rise further as more air is blown in. A higher bid is expected in the Swan/Castlemaine beer battle, and possibly in the three-cornered retailing fight for Myer. If the market's current level is to be justified - excluding resource companies it is on an historic p/w of around 11 - investors will want to see solid double-figure growth in



est rates which traditionally attend a rise in the pound and a decline in commodity prices. And it is no secret that the foreigners who have been buying gilts during the past month find the conventional market more attractive - and easier to understand - than index-linked.

Yet, for long-term value, the index-linked market is hard to beat. The short-dated stocks are currently discounting an average inflation rate of under four per cent for high taxpayers and, even for gross funds, the best-inflation rate against conventional is no more than seven per cent across the maturity spectrum. And that takes no account of the risk premium in the conventional market.

Dowry
If a pervasive corporate strategist had set out to design a company that was guaranteed to suffer in this summer's equity market, the business mix would certainly have included electronics, and probably some engineering as well; to throw in exposure to defence contracts and the coal board would have seemed like caricature. In the circumstances, Dowry's share price has held up rather well; 4p higher at 170p yesterday, it is only 20 per cent off the top.

Dowry's year has not been without its problems. Although pre-tax profits for the year to March are up by a fifth at £44.2m, that figure reflects damage from frayed labour relations in the aerospace division, where profits were sharply lower in the second half as sales were maintained, but sourced from unusual and expensive places; at least the order book is strong and the current year's production should not be similarly disrupted. On the other hand, mining equipment sailed through the coal strike without anything like the problems suggested by Dobson Park or Anderson Strathclyde.

In aerospace, as in electronics, the group's own heavy spending on product development will continue to weigh on reported profits for some while; but with an unguessed balance sheet Dowry is not likely to be asking the market for cash. If it can make something near £55m this year, earnings per share could actually climb back to where they were in 1980, in which case a multiple of 10 is not asking an awful lot.

Stockholm refuses to rescue Consafe

By Kevin Done in Stockholm

THE SWEDISH Government has refused to take any immediate initiative to rescue Consafe, the financially troubled offshore services group which is facing an acute liquidity crisis.

Consafe, the world's leading operator of offshore accommodation and service platforms for the oil and gas industry, has been forced to begin negotiations with its main creditors after warning that it is facing losses of SKr 300-400m (\$35.6-47.6m).

Through Swedyard, the state-owned shipbuilding group which has built most of the Consafe's fleet of semi-submersible platforms, the Swedish state has guaranteed around 80 per cent, or some SKr 2.3m, of Consafe's total long-term debt of around SKr 3bn.

The Government, in its first statement on the threatened Consafe collapse, said that it expected the company's shareholders "to take their responsibility."

Mr Rolf Carlsson, the Swedish Industry Minister responsible for state-owned companies, said that Consafe's problems should be solved by its owners and the financial markets, but he did not rule out a role for the state through Swedyard, the state Ship Credit Guarantee Office or the National Debt Office.

An earlier round of rescue talks broke down last week when Swedyard withdrew from negotiations and said it was not prepared to make further concessions.

The Consafe board is to meet today to discuss a new restructuring plan drawn up by management, and the board is expected to present the plan to Mr Carlsson at a meeting in Stockholm tomorrow.

The company is losing around SKr 1.5m a day with a substantial part of its lost lead up without contract. If Consafe is allowed to collapse it would also ultimately be a death-blow for the Göteborger Arrendal yard which has largely lived off Consafe orders in recent years.

Any rescue would be highly charged politically, however, just a few weeks before the general election on September 15.

The Social Democratic Government has taken a hard line against providing state support to help ailing companies stave off collapse.

Mr Christer Eriksson, managing director and founder of Consafe, who still controls around 50 per cent of the equity and more than 90 per cent of the votes in the company, has been a fierce critic of the Socialist Government earlier and in particular has fought the controversial system of trade union-controlled investment funds which was introduced last year.

Swedish capital inflow, Page 2

Increase in Hanson's Bowater stake seen as prelude to bid

BY MARTIN DICKSON IN LONDON

HANSON TRUST, the UK industrial holding company, disclosed yesterday that it had built up a 7.04 per cent stake in Bowater Industries, the paper group.

There was immediate market speculation that Hanson might be preparing a bid for Bowater, shares of which jumped sharply on the London Stock Exchange, closing up 37p on the day at 313p. Hanson shares closed up 1p at 188p.

Hanson is believed to have held a stake of around 4 per cent in Bowater for a considerable time, but share buying over the past week has carried it above the 5 per cent level at which it must disclose its interest.

Hanson said last night: "At the prices we have paid over a period for our shares we regard them as a

worthwhile investment." It would not comment on its future intentions.

The market has long been expecting a big takeover bid from Hanson, which earlier this month completed a controversial £519m (\$726m) rights issue - the largest ever by a UK company wholly in the private sector.

However, Lord Hanson, the group's chairman, said recently that his ideal target would be a broadly based U.S. group. The company said yesterday that the Bowater stake in no way altered that.

Bowater emerged from its big North American newspaper activities last year, leaving a UK company with 1984 pre-tax profits of £35.7m on turnover of £127m. It makes packaging, tissue, paper and

pulp, and has important builders' merchant and freight forwarding interests. At last night's closing price, it has a market capitalisation of £288m.

In 1978 Bowater, then larger, and the much smaller Hanson Trust reached agreement on a merger, but Bowater's bid was dropped after a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

Bowater said last night that Lord Hanson had telephoned Dr Ingram Lenton, the company's chairman, yesterday to notify him of the stake. There had been no other talks between the two sides.

Asked Bowater's likely attitude to a bid, the company said: "I am sure we would defend ourselves as vigorously as possible, but at this stage there is no sign of one."

Brussels may probe copier 'dumping'

By Quentin Peel in Brussels

THE EUROPEAN Commission is expected before the end of the month to order an investigation into the possible dumping of Japanese photocopyers on the European market, officials in Brussels confirmed yesterday.

A complaint has been made against Japanese suppliers by European photocopier manufacturers, who have progressively lost market share in recent years.

Discussions are currently taking place between the Commission and officials of the member state to decide whether there is prima facie evidence of dumping that would merit an investigation.

Japanese manufacturers are estimated to supply up to 80 per cent of the machines in the Community, a market in which prices have been reduced considerably. Only eight European suppliers remain in Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands.

The complaint is understood to have been made by the Committee of European Copier Manufacturers, representing companies such as Italy's Olivetti and Britain's Rank Xerox.

Recent anti-dumping cases have involved Japanese suppliers of electronic typewriters and hydraulic excavators. The EEC member states have taken a particularly tough stance, insisting on imposing anti-dumping duties in the latter case, rather than accept assurances of higher prices negotiated with the manufacturers.

The importance of an investigation into photocopyers will be if the Japanese manufacturers are found to be dumping their products in Europe at lower prices than those charged in Japan, in spite of already occupying such a dominant position in the market.

French investment in South Africa halted

Continued from Page 1

and could conceivably damage efforts to persuade South Africa to change its policy on apartheid.

But Mr Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, warned at a human rights meeting in Paris at the end of May attended by Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa that the French Government would consider firm actions against Pretoria if there was no satisfactory change in policy in South Africa during the next 18 months. The events of the last few weeks precipitated the Government's decision to take action last night.

If France leads the hard-line camp in the EEC on South Africa, Britain stands at the other end of the scale. The British firmly resist suggestions that the EEC should adopt economic sanctions against South Africa, a position underlined in the clearest manner by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in a speech to the Royal Commonwealth Society in London on Tuesday.

It now remains to be seen to what extent other members of the Community will follow France's line, which is at least partially dictated by the Socialist Government's desire to placate its left-wing supporters.

Diplomatic observers in London believe that West Germany, with very substantial investments in South Africa, is more likely to take the British than the French line. But the Dutch, who in Brussels called for the code of conduct for EEC companies to be made compulsory and who have always adopted an extremely critical attitude towards South Africa, might be persuaded to follow the French example.

What is certain is that the European Community has lost a golden opportunity to adopt a common position on a major international

problem and has thus undermined current efforts to extend political co-operation between the member states.

Tom Lynch writes in London: Sir Geoffrey yesterday faced a barrage of demands by Labour Alliance MPs for UK Government action against South Africa.

His repeated dismissal of calls in the House of Commons for economic sanctions against South Africa were attacked by Mr Denis Healey, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman. He said the Government had supported sanctions against Poland after the declaration of the state of emergency there, and was now secretly supporting U.S. sanctions against Nicaragua.

He challenged Sir Geoffrey to deny that sanctions had been effective in helping to secure the release of the U.S. hostages in Iran. He said the declaration of a state of emergency against South Africa into a "riotous" South African spokesman. He said the Government had supported sanctions against Poland after the declaration of the state of emergency there, and was now secretly supporting U.S. sanctions against Nicaragua.

Sir Geoffrey said the Government had always taken "a profoundly sceptical" view of the value of sanctions anywhere. He agreed with Mr Anthony Nelson, a Conservative MP, that sanctions would be ineffective and undesirable and were not in the interests of those they sought to help.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said an "imaginative and humanitarian gesture" such as the freeing from prison of Mr Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress, would do more to calm the situation than the emergency powers invoked by the South African Government. He called on Britain to consider the use of selective sanctions.

Sir Geoffrey supported the call for Mandela's release, and agreed that bold actions were necessary to restore the possibility of dialogue in South Africa.

Thatcher unmoved by Tory revolt

Continued from Page 1

isters would be a "little more receptive to the views of backbenchers. Good government need not consist of trampling on the sensibilities of friends and supporters," he said.

Conservative Party managers will now be conducting a post-mortem examination. One commented last night that Mrs Thatcher would no longer be able to take for granted the loyalty of her backbenchers. He said Mrs Thatcher might have been better advised to explain the proposals to the members herself first and to have mentioned them in her speech to the 1922 Committee of backbench Tories last Thursday.

There has also been some embarrassment and anger on the opposition side since 35 in 40 Labour MPs failed to vote, as did a third of MPs in the Liberal/SDP Alliance.

A group of 15 Labour MPs last night tried and failed to obtain an emergency meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party to find out why opposition whips had failed to bring in sufficient MPs to defeat the Government. The criticism is partly associated with the forthcoming election for a new Labour Chief Whip.

The House of Commons is a place of changing moods, often seizing on an issue and for a short time making it the focus of intense interest. And so it was on Tuesday night.

Conservative MPs had returned to the Commons on Monday from their constituencies reinforced in their anger about the size of the awards at a delicate stage in the teachers' pay talks and when sacrifices were being demanded elsewhere.

Initially, it was thought that only 20 to 30 backbenchers might vote against or abstain. However, as MPs chatted on Tuesday evening in the bars, tearooms and on Terrace, waiting for the debate to start after midnight, doubters turned into abstainers and abstainers into outright rebels.

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NEWS REVIEW

BUSINESS
DEC chooses Ferranti Broadband

The Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) has ordered Ferranti Broadband local area network (LAN) for their R & D facility at Reading. The system currently consists of network cabling, data and video modems and was designed for the DEC UK engineering facility by Ferranti Computer Systems, Wythenshawe Division.

This follows much wider acceptance of Broadband by major computer and LAN vendors, including DEC with its latest Broadband Ethernet product range.

Building service

As part of the UK's first major automated management system for building repair and maintenance in the public sector, Lancashire County Council has opted for a 'piggy-backed' telephone key system. The multi-facility digital telephone system from Ferranti GTE allows property supervisors all over the East of the county to dial in direct to staff in the Property Services Department, who are then able to initiate and monitor emergency job requests by computer.

Briefly...

Ferranti plc announces the formation of a joint venture company between TRW Ferranti Subsea Limited and A/S Kongsberg Vapenfabrik of Norway, to be known as Kongsberg Controls A/S. In a move to win a substantial share of the IBM PC compatible market, Ferranti Computer Systems has introduced two new low priced micro-computers.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Credit authorisation

On Line Card Services, the company formed jointly by the major credit card companies to market authorisation terminals, has selected a Ferranti GTE display and transaction telephone to spearhead their Cardlink service to major retailers and credit card outlets.

Widespread knowledge of electronic authorisation might alert users of stolen cards before they are picked up by the Cardlink system, so although Cardlink is already in use by several well-known high street retailers, details of current users are not widely publicised. By "wiping"

a credit card through the reader, the Data 2000 transaction telephone automatically transmits details of a credit card sale to the computer at the appropriate card company. Displays of the returned authorisation number and prompts sales staff to lift the receiver and establish a telephone link if there is a problem on a particular transaction.

On Line has placed an initial order worth £400,000 which would double the present installed base. On Line Card Services is jointly owned by Access, American Express, Barclaycard and Diners Club.

PRINTING

A German composer

West German printer Girardet of Essen has placed an order through Ferranti GmbH in Wiesbaden for a CS7-15 Series 11 composing system worth £180,000 which will be primarily used for the setting of trade magazines and technical and scientific publications.

The system will be supplied with two of the latest raster scan CS7 make-up displays, the first of their type to be installed in Germany and five on-line, interactive editing and correction terminals. Three CS7 text input terminals, using identical key-

boards and the same command structure as the on-line terminals, are being supplied for off-line remote text capture.

The CS7 software includes: magazine page make-up, multi-level mathematics, enhanced book pagination, kerning, Lasercomp graphics, hyphenation exception dictionary, generalised code conversion and column move for tabular setting.

The CS7 is produced in the UK by the Wythenshawe Division of Ferranti Computer Systems.

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Basel	23	SE	10	Geneva	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	London	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Madrid	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Munich	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Nuremberg	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Paris	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Rome	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Stockholm	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Vienna	22	SE	10
Bombay	29	SE	10	Zurich	22	SE	10

JOBS COLUMN

Key role in spreading awareness of science

BY MICHAEL DIXON

"HAVE a go at this one," said Professor Richard Gregory as he bounded across the gadget-filled room in Bristol. "Here's your hair-dryer, it can blow either medium or hard."

He pointed at two brightly coloured beach balls suspended from a beam by rods which allowed them to move sideways but not back and forth. They hung about three inches apart. "Your job is to move them further apart by blowing air between them; try starting with the medium blow," he told the young woman whom he'd given the hair-dryer. She took aim at the three-inch gap and pressed the switch.

Instead of swinging apart the beach balls drew closer together. When the woman turned on the dryer full blast they moved farther inward and touched. Whereupon she looked perplexed.

"Now why do you think that happened?" asked Richard Gregory, who would be a strong contender for the title of the world's most eminent overgrown schoolboy. The titles he holds at present are Professor of Neuropsychology of the University of Bristol and Director of its Brain and Perception Laboratory.

But what he was showing off with the hair-dryer and numerous other devices was an independent project to give fun and new understanding to lively minds of either sex and not necessarily young, whose educa-

tion has left them with little appreciation of science. The project is the Bristol Exploratory, which is due to open to the public in September 1986 in what once was Brunel's first railway terminus.

It will be quite the opposite of a museum in the sense that instead of being forbidden to touch the exhibits, visitors will be encouraged if not required to play around with them.

The idea is to bring key scientific principles to life, and surprisingly so. For each of the Exploratory's so-called "plores" will be designed so that what happens when people not versed in the sciences have a go with it, will be strikingly different from what they expected. They will then be prompted to ask themselves why the strange result came about and pointed towards an answer.

The project's temporary workshops are already crowded with weird and wonderful things. (Richard Gregory's current favourite seems to be a closed lighted only by a dim electric bulb in a socket on a stand. He asks you to step over and unscrew the bulb. And when you try, it is not there. You can still see it — I tell you — but it is not there.)

Even so, a good many other plores need to be thought up, developed and built in suitably young-person-proof form before the Exploratory will have enough for its public opening. Which explains why the Jobs

Column got itself intrigued by the professor's private demonstration the other Sunday morning.

The enterprise now needs a workshop manager to complete a trio of full-time executives alongside James Dalgely, co-ordinator of the project, and its administrative chief Kate Tiffin. She says the prime need is for someone with ability to lead a team of three research technicians, also still to be recruited, in bringing the Exploratory into full being.

Another essential is ability to get a mental grasp of scientific principles that can be intriguingly demonstrated by means of plores, see to the designing and making of the prototype devices and developing them to the quality required to stimulate and withstand the public's interest. The responsibilities will include deciding what further equipment, the workshop needs, and training the support staff to use it.

In addition, Prof Gregory says, the newcomer must be able to make up his or her mind about the practicalities of the project and stand up for them even if pressed to try something more elaborate by "enthusiastic scientists." He was not referring only to himself. For example, Sir George Porter, President-elect of the Royal Society, is also interested in the Exploratory. It is at present running on a

£120,000 grant from the Nuffield Foundation. A further £130,000 is in the offing, together with more from other sources, provided that satisfactory progress has been made by the end of the year.

That will depend much on the new workshop manager. To start with, however, the salary cannot be more than about £12,000. Given the necessary qualities and energy, candidates nearing or even at retiring age would be as welcome as those of greener years. Inquiries to Ms Tiffin at 131 Duckmore Road, Ashington, Bristol; telephone 0272 624321.

Which still leaves the question why the beach balls moved closer together when the air was blown between them. The Jobs Column just happened to know the answer — thanks to the fine children's books on science by Jean-Pierre Petit published in Britain by John Murray.

If the balls had not moved nearer together, aeroplanes would not fly and there would be no point in moles building molehills. The principle involved is Bernoulli's Law: if air or any other fluid flows faster round one side of an object than round the other, the external pressure pushing against the side with the faster flow is reduced. As there is then greater external pressure against the other side, the object is pushed towards the direction where the flow is faster.

But I am still stumped by another of the plores. It consists of two mirrors, each pivoted at the back enabling it to be spun round through a full circle.

One is an ordinary mirror so that when you sit in front of it and lift your right hand your image in the glass raises its left hand. When you turn the mirror through a half-circle on the pivot so that the glass goes upside down, your image and the reflection of whatever is behind you stay the right way up just as they were before.

The other mirror is made up of two glasses set at an angle to one another. The result is that when you look straight at them you see a single image of yourself and your background. But this time when you raise your right hand your image raises its right hand too. And when you turn the mirror upside down, you and your background go upside down as well. Why?

While the professor offered to tell me the answer, he obviously hoped that I would take on the challenge of trying to work it out for myself. So I said I would.

But since I'm still vainly seeking a plausible solution, I'd be grateful for helping hints from readers able to provide them. Those who can must evidently be unusually bright people. Richard Gregory says that Plato,

among others, got the explanation hopelessly wrong.

Part-time chief

HEADHUNTER Christopher Beale seeks someone with weight in City circles as non-executive chairman for an £8m-turnover family business planning a USM listing. Paper industry experience would help. £20,000 for probably "a bit more" than two days concentrated effort a month. Since he may not name his client, he promises to abide by requests not to be identified to the employer at this stage.

The same applies in the case of another company which has asked him to find a national sales and marketing manager for its subsidiary manufacturing high-quality products for the building industry. The base is in the western Home Counties.

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JOHN W G FORBES MANAGING DIRECTOR
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Corporate Finance

For this important appointment, an attractive salary and benefits will be negotiated, and will not be a bar to the right candidate.

Our client is a long-established company engaged in merchant banking, corporate finance, equity finance and investment management. It has a fine record for growth and profitability, and is experiencing increasing demand for its services.

This new appointment is being made to strengthen their corporate finance team. Candidates, aged c.30, should be chartered accountants with 3-5 years in corporate finance, preferably in a merchant bank. They should have a sound educational background, including a good degree and a thorough knowledge of Take Over Panel and Stock Exchange procedures, funding sources, prospectus preparation etc. Strong personal qualities are required to enable the person appointed to develop effective client relationships and contribute to the growth of the bank.

Please apply to Sir Timothy Hoare, Chichester House, Chichester Rents, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EG, tel: 01-242 5775; home tel: 01-607 7359 evenings.

Career plan
LIMITED
Personnel Consultants

LAPORTE Assistant Group Treasurer

London Negotiable salary + car

Laporte Industries (Holdings) PLC, with current sales in excess of £400m p.a., is a successful, international Group supplying specialty chemicals and related services to customers throughout the world. Significant expansion is planned over the next few years and career opportunities within the Group are considered to be excellent.

We now require an Assistant Group Treasurer at our U.K. headquarters to strengthen the treasury function. The post reports to and deputises for the Group Treasurer and duties will cover a wide range of treasury operations including the investment of surplus funds, currency exposure management and special projects relating to treasury matters and acquisitions.

Candidates, aged about 30, should have a minimum of three years' experience in international treasury management and will be qualified Accountants and/or members of A.C.T. Sound commercial judgement and excellent interpersonal and communications skills are also sought. Experience in treasury related computer applications is a desirable, though not an essential requirement.

An attractive remuneration package will be offered for the right candidate including membership of a non-contributory pension scheme, a fully expensed executive car, and relocation assistance where necessary.

Candidates should apply in writing to Mr I. W. Pierce, Group Management Development and Training Manager, Laporte Industries Ltd., Hanover House, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE giving full details of current remuneration and career to date.

LAPORTE

Credit Manager

S. London c. £17,000 + Car

Reporting to the Finance Director, this is a senior management position within a well established company having a worldwide export operation.

Recent management changes have created a dynamic, forward looking atmosphere which has resulted in a number of exciting changes. Not least of these was a complete review of the credit management systems and the identification of the need for a top level credit manager. The successful applicant will have had a proven record of success within a similar role, will be familiar with ECOD; will have a finely developed commercial awareness and good communication skills. Age and formal qualifications are of less importance.

Excellent prospects exist for the right person.

For further information please write enclosing a detailed career history and daytime telephone number to Richard Norman FCA, quoting reference U2310.

EMA Management Personnel Ltd.
Hatton House, 20/23 Holborn, London EC1N 2JD.
Telephone: 01-242 7773 (24 hour).

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

Management role
**MONEY MARKET
INSTRUMENTS**
£40,000 +

A major banking institution with a perfect name is seeking a key management appointment in its development of new products within the money market — as well as CD's and FRN's there will be an emphasis on newer products such as options and futures. Candidates must be able to demonstrate management experience or potential and a first class trading background. Salary level should not be an issue for the right candidate.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

A move from CD's or FRN's
EURONOTES TRADING
£30,000 +

Our client is a major force in U.S. banking, with underwriting and placement power which has made a considerable impact in the money market. A background in trading short term negotiable instruments (such as CD's or FRN's) is required, combined with the flexibility to move to a new role in a different environment. This is a real opportunity to enter a new market set to dominate capital markets for the next few years.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

Sales & Trading:
**EURO-FRNs/STRAIGHT
BONDS**
£30,000

Our client is the merchant banking arm of a major international bank. Rapid expansion of their established securities trading activity creates senior level opportunities for two capital markets professionals, one in FRNs, the other in Straight Bonds. You are invited to contact us if you have upwards of one year's trading or sales experience in either area.

Contact: Ken Anderson

**ACCOUNTANTS —
CREDIT**
to £20,000

This position is with a prime North American bank which is rapidly re-developing its marketing focus. A superb opportunity for an experienced, qualified accountant to join a highly professional credit team with a view towards a marketing career. Initially working on U.K. corporate credit assessments, longer term prospects will be excellent for the candidate who can demonstrate well-developed communication skills and strong marketing potential.

Contact: Felicity Hother

**UK CORPORATE
LENDING**
to £20,000

Our client is a British merchant bank committed to developing its UK business activities, covering a small team of Assistant Managers level specialists in the financing of medium and larger sized companies, the position will involve responsibility for marketing a comprehensive range of lending facilities. Successful candidates, probably in their late twenties, will have a good grounding in analysis and documentation and a proven track record in marketing.

Contact: Felicity Hother

**MOVE FROM CREDIT TO
MARKETING**
c.£15,000

Our client is an international bank, currently expanding and developing its corporate credit base. This is a position as a marketing support officer. Though it is based on credit work, there is immediate significant customer contact and a definite route to a full marketing role within 18 months. If you are experienced in lending reviews and analysis and feel your ability justifies a move into marketing, then we would be happy to discuss this further.

Contact: Sarah Beaumont

INVESTMENT MANAGER
to £20,000

We are recruiting for a first class US bank, a market leader in international investment management. The challenging position involves responsibility for a portfolio of international equities. Candidates should be aged late 20s, have a good academic background, and well developed communication skills. At least three years' international practical experience is essential, and knowledge of Far Eastern equities would be an additional bonus.

Contact: Sarah Beaumont

**YOUNG A.C.A.s
Operational Audit**
(USA, Europe, S. America)
£15-17,000

A major US bank uses its Audit area for a variety of systems reviews, business analysis and troubleshooting functions. The department deals directly with director-level management and is viewed as a first step in a banking career. Within the group, the position offers the chance to move into the loosely defined audit structure, and management responsibility within the last year, it should appeal to newly qualified Accountants who wish to pursue a banking career, but are unsure of specialisation at this stage.

Contact: Kevin Byrne

Anderson, Squires Ltd., Bank Recruitment Specialists
127 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BU

01-588 6644 Anderson, Squires

Development Consultants Employee Benefits (London)

Stewart Wrightson, one of the leading employee benefit consultancies, is looking for enthusiastic, self-motivated, experienced individuals to join the expanding Sales and Development team based in the London region at Kingston upon Thames.

Responsibilities will include generating new enquiries, following up existing leads, broking consultancy work, report writing and establishing new benefit schemes.

The successful candidates, who are unlikely to be less than late twenties, should have:

- all round technical knowledge
- several years' experience with a benefit consultancy
- proven negotiating, marketing and selling skills
- an innovative approach in dealing with clients
- APMI qualifications

The position offers excellent terms and conditions of employment, including a company car, non-contributory pension scheme and employee share scheme. Assistance with relocation expenses will be considered where appropriate.

Please apply in writing telling us about your ambitions with a brief curriculum vitae to:

Carol Saunders, Recruitment Administrator,
Stewart Wrightson, Kingston Bridge House,
Church Grove, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 4AG.
Tel: 01-877 8888 Ext 3379

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Benefit Consultancy

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INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FINANCING

Assistant Director
Export Finance

Executive
Project Financing

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, one of the leading U.K. merchant banks, is seeking to fill the following two positions to assist in the development of its rapidly expanding international Project Finance Department.

- Early 30's with a good university degree;
- at least 5 years' practical experience of a major buyer credit business;
- possessing a demonstrable flair for innovation and an understanding of novel financing instruments;
- numerate and with a good knowledge of computer evaluation techniques;
- personable and capable of developing client relationships.

- 24-30 with MBA or degree in economics or similar field;
- 3-5 years' experience in international business development, project-related banking, management consultancy or accountancy;
- experience in computerised financial modelling;
- background in civil engineering, communications, natural resources, chemicals or similar project-related industries would be preferred.

These are London-based appointments but extensive travel may be involved. A fully competitive salary is offered, together with an attractive range of benefits including mortgage subsidy and a generous non-contributory pension scheme.

Applications (which will be treated in complete confidence), with full curriculum vitae, should be sent to: Mr John R. Lambert, Head of Staff and Administration, J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 120 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DS.

Schroders

Investment Administrator

KENT

We are a leading international mutual insurance company with our administrative offices for the United Kingdom situated in Sevenoaks. The successful candidate will be concerned with all aspects of the investment administration requirements of the group in the United Kingdom. A knowledge of the valuation of unitised funds or international security settlement procedures would be an advantage. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications and be attractive to the right person.

Please write or telephone for an application form to: —

Sylvia Clifton
Swiss Life Insurance and Pension Company
Swiss Life House, 99/101 London Road
Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1AX
Telephone: (0732) 450161

Swiss Life

INSTITUTIONAL SALES EXECUTIVE

A long established firm of regional Stockbrokers seeks to appoint an additional Institutional Sales Executive for the capital goods sector.

Applicants should be servicing U.K. institutions on a full time basis, or be analysts with regular institutional contacts or have relevant fund management experience. Consideration will also be given to persons without specific experience of the securities markets whose career in industry has demonstrated exceptional sales ability.

There are excellent career prospects to full partnership or profit sharing if preferred, together with a generous remuneration package which reflects the importance of the appointment.

Apply to: Marlar International Ltd., City Office, 12 Well Court, London EC4M 9DN, or telephone 01-248 9614.

Group Company Secretary

£17,500 + car + bonus

The Group is a multiple distributor through 550 retail/wholesale outlets in the UK, with turnover in excess of £70m.

The appointee will be responsible to the Finance Director for all Group secretarial and statutory functions including pensions insurance, legal and conveyancing matters, some accounting duties and the Group treasury function.

Ideally, you will be a chartered secretary, or hold a legal or accounting qualification. Personal qualities sought are: numeracy, commitment, good communication skills, experience of handling staff successfully and dealing with people at all levels.

An attractive salary, company car, free life assurance, PPP first class pension scheme, plus excellent career prospects are offered in return. CV to Mrs M Watson, PER, 12A Commercial Way, Woking, Surrey GU21 1HG.

PER

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT £15,000-£25,000+

We have been retained by a number of clients who seek qualified Bankers with three or more years experience in developing UK Corporate or International business. The successful candidates, if not qualified Bankers, will be Graduates with relevant banking experience, or perhaps senior marketing support people with a good background of client contact. Language ability, French, German or Spanish is of importance in respect of some of the opportunities currently available.

MONEY BROKERS

A Major Money-Broking Organisation is expanding its activities in various market sectors, particularly the Corporate and Investment Bank areas. We would be pleased to hear from Bankers who are seeking a change, as well as people with a background in Stockbroking, Corporate Treasury Departments or similar. This is a superb opportunity either to expand your existing career within a growth environment, or to make that change in direction which can be so difficult to achieve.

SNR. CREDIT MANAGER

£30,000+

This vacancy calls for excellent skills in balance sheet interpretation, encompassing major asset equipment finance, with emphasis on UK and European transactions. Fluency in French is essential. Age about 35 years, US credit trained.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

For the above vacancies please contact David Williams or Roger Steere.

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— Securities Trading Firm
c. £20,000

Our client is a London-based registered securities firm which has been recently established by a leading international bank headquartered in Europe and having global activities. The overall group's assets exceed US \$50 billion.

We are seeking an Operations Manager to play a key role in setting up and managing the support systems and procedures for the new London firm. Responsibilities will include internal book-keeping, automated systems, accounting control, external reporting, external auditors and relationships with the securities clearing agents, as well as ensuring close coordination and integration over time with the parent bank's systems.

Our client requires a qualified accountant, knowledgeable on support systems for equity and bond securities trading both in the primary and secondary markets. Experience working with micro computers and automated systems is important, as is an ability to administer all aspects of the firm's operations, ranging from office services through to financial controls and reporting. He or she is likely to be aged over twenty-eight.

This is an excellent ground floor opportunity to be a key member of a fast-growing, young and dynamic team and develop a career in the capital markets with a prestigious institution.

Please apply in confidence to:
St. James's Corporate Consulting,
Box FT1931, St. James's House
47 Red Lion Square, Fleet Street, London EC4

Investment Specialists

£10,000 £100,000

As investment recruitment specialists since 1976 our longstanding clients include a wide range of reputable Stockbroking and Institutional names. Due to current activity and developments they are keen to talk to individuals of high calibre, at all levels, in such areas as:

Research
High demand from brokers for analysts at all levels and certain teams — particularly Consumer, Oil, Electricals, Financials, Europe and Japan. Institutions still seek those with experience of U.K. or Japan.

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Any sales experience, be it in U.K., Europe, U.S. or Japan is sought plus specialists in Chemicals, Oil, Consumer, Gifts and LIFE people in high demand — as are Market Makers.

Management
Fund managers in the mid to senior levels, especially with U.K. pension fund experience, for brokers and institutions. Also specialists in Europe and Japan. Many openings on private clients.

Other
Corporate finance Executives, Economists and Unit Trust or Pension Fund managers.

Whether you are actively looking or would simply like to be kept informed, contact us in confidence: Fiona Stephens, Anthony Innes, Susan Kennedy, Martin Armstrong.

Stephens Associates

International Recruitment Consultants
44 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5BX. 01-234 7301

Eurobond Dealer

Salary c.£30,000 + Benefits

A rapidly expanding International Stockbroking firm, with a well established presence in the fixed income area, is looking to further develop its London operations.

The successful applicant will have sole responsibility for running an active book in a fast growing sector of the Euromarkets, and will report to the Managing Director.

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of one year's experience in Eurobond trading and currently be seeking to progress their career by joining a small, highly motivated team to assist in the firm's continued expansion. He/she will play an active part in decision making and will therefore require a strong, independent personality.

In the first instance please contact Sally Poppleton or Jonathan Williams on 01-404 5751 or write to them, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae, to 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, quoting ref. 3526.



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Equally active in the United States and in Europe, with operating companies in 26 countries, it maintains a leading market position in various industry groups. Your involvement will be with the management of transport and trading companies in the energy industries and in container leasing.

Based in the company's London headquarters and part of a team of exceptionally high calibre, you will carry out market analysis and monthly financial reporting for the operating companies, using computerised simulation and modelling techniques to make business

forecasts. You will also structure proposals for acquisition and divestiture and will considerably influence the development of a group which is committed to growth and tuned to respond quickly to market developments.

An MBA in your twenties, you can liaise effectively with people at senior management levels and are fluent in at least one other European language. You will enjoy an international lifestyle, travelling very frequently to Europe and the US. Highly numerate, with excellent analytical skills and capacity for strategic planning, you have two years' experience in some area of financial management.

You will receive a highly attractive salary and benefits package. To apply please ring or preferably write in complete confidence to Belesa Watson of Cripps, Sears & Associates Ltd, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Tel: 01-404 8701.

Cripps, Sears

ASSISTANT TAXATION MANAGER

Liverpool
£16,000 pa (minimum)

Royal Insurance plc currently have a vacancy in their Taxation Division, which is located in Liverpool, for a person to play a leading role in taxation planning and research in respect of their worldwide non-life insurance operations.

The successful applicant must possess a detailed and up-to-date knowledge of UK corporate taxation law and have had several years' experience of its practical application to the affairs of a large, multi-national company. Additionally, some knowledge of taxation law in

major overseas countries would be an advantage.

Progression opportunities within the company are excellent. A first class benefits package is offered, which includes low interest mortgage facilities, pension scheme and generous relocation assistance where appropriate.

To apply, send full curriculum vitae to:

R. M. Armour,
Administration Manager,
Group Comptroller's Department,
Royal Insurance plc.,
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3EN.



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The successful candidate will have several years' experience in the Sterling Money Markets and will be fully familiar with sterling futures, FRAs, CDs, Swaps and Gilts.

He/she will also be capable of a significant input of ideas and will have considerable personal responsibility to develop the direction of the Money Book, reporting to a main board director.

The remuneration package will be substantial, reflecting the demands of the post, and will consist of high basic salary with profit share and full range of banking benefits.

If you are interested in an opportunity to develop your skills further and can demonstrate your success to date, please send a detailed curriculum vitae to the address below, or telephone for an appointment to see:

Caroline Baker
01-481 3188

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CJA

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For this appointment, we seek candidates of graduate calibre, fluent in English, aged 30-35, with at least ten years broadly based EDP experience. This must include operating, programming, analysis, design and implementation of major systems with data base. We require a minimum of five years as D.P./Project Manager with at least three years on IBM Systems 34's, stand-alone and linked, using RPG II. A knowledge of retail banking, its DP requirements, I.B.M. P.C.'s plus related software and MIDAS will be a distinct advantage and previous Middle East experience is desirable. Heading a small multi-national group, the successful candidate will be responsible to the Head of Bank Operations for the management of all aspects of the existing nationwide D.P. operation, particularly its enhancement and further development. The ability to gain respect at all levels and to work under pressure with the minimum of direction and supervision is essential. Initial tax free salary negotiable S.R. 200,000 — S.R. 225,000 and generous range of leading bank benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference EDPM 4363/FT, to the Managing Director: C.J.A.



LONDON

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FINANCIAL CONTROLLER — BANKING

£37,000 — £45,000

LEADING EUROPEAN COMMERCIAL BANK — ASSETS IN EXCESS OF £3 BILLION

This vacancy calls for candidates, aged 33-45, qualified A.C.A.'s who have a minimum of 8 years post qualification experience in the International Banking environment, at least 2 years heading, or as the number 2, of the Financial Control operation. Responsibilities are widely drawn and will cover taking responsibility initially for the continued improvement and further streamlining of the existing financial and accounting procedures of the Bank and secondly, to provide a significant contribution in the commercial effectiveness of the Bank's many services. The capacity to think and look constructively and influence policy decisions is of key importance. Initial salary negotiable, £37,000-£45,000 + car, generous subsidised mortgage facility, contributory pension, free life assurance, free B.U.P.A., assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference FCB095/FT, to the Managing Director: A.L.P.S.



CENTRAL LONDON

CORPORATE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER — EUROPEAN REGION

£22,000 — £25,000 + CAR

HEADQUARTERS OF MAJOR RAPIDLY EXPANDING BRITISH DIVERSE, INTERNATIONAL GROUP — TURNOVER EXCEEDS £4 BILLION

We invite applications for this new appointment from Chartered Accountants, aged 26-35, with at least three years' post qualification experience in professional audit management or in industry/commerce with employers of note. A broadly based financial accounting background is essential with the particular ability to make a full contribution and meaningful interpretation in the fields of international consolidations and taxation. Reporting to the Group European Financial Controller and heading a substantial team, the successful candidate will be responsible for all aspects of regional financial accounting procedures and control, monthly reporting and full quarterly consolidations. The evaluation and implementation of taxation strategy together with the complete financial integration of recent acquisitions and hoc investigations are other priorities as is the overall supervision of an in house credit management subsidiary. The ability to produce results under pressure in a fast moving environment and to gain confidence at the highest level is vital. Initial salary negotiable £22,000 — £25,000, car, contributory pension, life assurance, medical cover and relocation expenses. Applications in strict confidence under reference CFMS094/FT, to the Managing Director: A.L.P.S.



LONDON

MANAGER — REMUNERATION AND BUDGETS — BANKING

£16,000 — £20,000

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANT BANK

This is a new appointment, which calls for candidates, aged 30-38, who must be highly-numerate personnel generalists with either 3 years' experience in payroll, budgets and remuneration administration, (ideally in the financial sector) or accountants wishing to widen their experience within personnel. Supported by a competent team, the successful candidate will be responsible for UK and overseas payroll/benefits administration, personnel records and the preparation and monitoring of a sizeable budget, as well as for the production of personnel and statistical management reports. An important aspect will be giving guidance and direction in these areas and there will be certain ad hoc projects which may include a computerisation exercise. Considered essential is a calm, well-organised approach, together with the ability to work under pressure in a busy department where high standards of accuracy, presentation and speed are of prime importance. Initial salary negotiable £16,000 — £20,000 + generous mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension scheme, free life assurance and free BUPA. Applications, in strict confidence, under reference MRB 4365/FT, to the Managing Director: C.J.A.

35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374, FAX: 01-638 9216

Organisations requiring assistance on recruitment — Please telephone 01-628 7533



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Fixed Interest Securities Dealer

Applications are invited for a position which has arisen on our expanding fixed interest securities desk. Previous experience will be an advantage although not necessary as training will be provided. Applicants must be recent graduates with a wide interest in financial and economic affairs and be prepared to work in an Anglo-Japanese environment.

This post offers significant career prospects as well as opportunities for overseas travel. Remuneration will be competitive and commensurate with experience.

Please apply in writing, with a full curriculum vitae, to:

Mr. T. Miyake, Company Secretary
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to £40,000

Our client, a major force in investment management and part of a highly diversified group, seeks an experienced and highly motivated individual to fulfil a key role in the continuing development of the segregated funds operation. The ideal candidate is likely to be in the 28-40 age group and have a sound track record in broadly-based fund management. Experience may have been gained in any mainstream investment management environment and will have included a significant element of client contact.

Reporting to the Managing Director, the successful individual will contribute to the formulation and strategy for the segregated funds and will be involved in attracting and retaining a profitable client portfolio.

This opportunity will appeal to those who are unable to exploit their personal ambition and ability within their current environment, as the group's excellent in-house research and support functions ensure the opportunity to develop fully within this role.

Remuneration will fully reflect the importance which the company attaches to this appointment, including participation in the executive share option scheme. There is also scope for significant further management and equity participation.

Please contact Sarah Gates at the Investment Division, 23 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2BP, telephone 01-404 5751.



Michael Page City

International Recruitment Consultants - London Brussels New York Sydney
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Group Pensions Manager

Actuary c. £30,000



Rowntree Mackintosh

Rowntree Mackintosh is an international business which manufactures and markets chocolates, sugar confectionery, grocery and snack products. Its highly successful range includes well-known brands such as Kit Kat, Quality Street, Black Magic, Aero, Smarties, Polo Mints, Rowntrees Jellies, Pan Yan Pickle, and Murphy's Crisps.

The £200m Rowntree Mackintosh pension fund, established in 1906, is a voluntary scheme based on money purchase principles, carrying out its own investment programme, and the majority of Trustees are member elected.

Due to a forthcoming retirement, the company seeks an Actuary to take over as Group Pensions Manager who will report to the Main Board Director responsible for pensions along with the Investment Manager. Key tasks are ensuring that the fund remains ahead of legislative and other changes affecting pensions; overseeing all administrative matters; and co-ordinating and advising on pensions matters in a

growing number of overseas subsidiaries.

The ideal Manager will be an executive aged 35-45 who has experience in a substantial fund of all the key tasks. Flair and initiative to continue the record of successful pensions management, and the knowledge to meet changing circumstances in the pensions world, are prerequisites. Strong personal skills are essential to work well with Trustees, committee members, the Investment Manager and outside advisors, as well as to deal with individual members, and to manage a department of over 30 people.

The post will be located in the pleasant, historic city of York with reasonably-priced housing within easy commuting distance and convenient for attractive countryside and coast. The negotiable salary is supported by an excellent range of benefits.

Please send full cv, in confidence, to
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You will almost certainly have a degree and be currently working in the City environment, probably in a consultancy role.

This position demands the highest level of professionalism in terms of both oral and written communication skills, personal presentation and analytical ability.

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To apply please telephone or write in strictest confidence to our consultant Brian Burgess quoting Ref: BB928.

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International Lending Spread Your Wings

Aged 24-29 you have a good understanding of international lending but you are limited in scope and prospects, and therefore frustrated. Preferably a graduate and with a bank, you speak French. You confidently believe you can become a good European lending officer and possess excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.

After careful planning, this leading international bank is set to increase business in Europe by attracting quality borrowers needing syndicated or direct loans or trade credit facilities. The London office is supported

by a network of European offices who will assist the campaign. The bank also has a worldwide spread of branches and offices. In London, the corporate image is professional without being stuffy and there is much emphasis on teamwork.

Salary is negotiable but generous and there are normal banking benefits. Advancement prospects are good. Should you wish to apply please telephone or write to Derek Cox of Cripps, Sears & Associates Limited, Personnel Management Consultants, 88/89 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LH. Tel: 01-404 5701.

Cripps, Sears

Senior Investment Executives

£17,000-£23,000

Two early recruits to the GLEB's Investment Division have recently moved on to even greater things - one to head an overseas development bank and the other to run his own company.

We therefore now need two Senior Investment Executives. The successful applicants will have a formal accountancy qualification or possibly an MBA. They will be able to demonstrate sound experience, ability and mature judgement in appraisal, structuring and negotiation of new investment as well as "hands on" management and monitoring of existing investments. Such experience is likely to have been gained in an investment institution, commercial/industrial holding company or possibly consultancy.

They will play an important role in furthering the aims of the Greater London Enterprise Board in the regeneration of the London Economy. This activity has, already, involved assistance to some 200 companies for the creation or saving of over 3,500 jobs.

Interviews will be conducted from mid-August. Please write enclosing full curriculum vitae to: Roger J Webster, Director of Investment, Greater London Enterprise Board, 63-67 Newington Causeway, London SE16BD.

The Greater London Enterprise Board is an equal opportunity employer, and applications are welcome from candidates regardless of sex, race, nationality, age, or marital status and from registered disabled persons.

Greater
London
Enterprise
Board

Business Development Commercial Banking

Due to the expansion of Hambros services to small and medium-sized companies, we now wish to appoint an Assistant Manager to work with a team which is responsible for the growth of our corporate banking activities as well as for providing a support service to existing clients.

This is an excellent opportunity for a qualified banker (AIB) in his or her late twenties/early thirties who can demonstrate considerable experience and expertise in all aspects

of lending, together with handling potential customers and evaluating new business propositions. In addition to an attractive salary and benefits, there are excellent career prospects for the candidate who has the confidence and ability to contribute to the success of the Commercial Banking Division.

Please write, enclosing your curriculum vitae, to Paul Conboy, Recruitment and Training Manager, Hambros Bank, 41 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2AA.



HAMBROS BANK

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

DYNAMIC OPPORTUNITIES WITH A MAJOR EUROPEAN BANK

MONEY MARKET

c £40,000 + Car
Age 30+

OPERATIONS

c £30,000 + Car
Age 30-45

A minimum of five years' trading experience in Secondary CDs, Acceptances, FRNs and Financial Futures is required for this management position. The successful candidate will play a major role in the development and expansion of the trading function within an already very active dealing room.

As Deputy to the Senior Operations Manager, the job involves the overall control of 10 departments employing 90+ staff. Candidates should have a thorough grounding in all aspects of operations, which should include a good knowledge of securities. A minimum of 10 years' international banking experience is essential, of which at least five should have been at management level.

To discuss these positions in more detail, and complete confidence, please contact:

ROD JORDAN (Managing Director) on 01-377 1199
RODAN RECRUITMENT LIMITED
14 Devonshire Square, London EC2

Consultancy

Ernst & Whinney is an international accounting and consulting practice with numerous UK offices and clients ranging from the largest multinationals to small, family companies. The consultancy provides a wide variety of management services to the full range of clients, and to many organisations which are not clients of the main firm.

We are seeking additional well qualified and experienced professionals to join this team. You will be a graduate with qualifications and skills in accounting, computing or some other discipline of practical value to management. You will be articulate in both the spoken and written word and prepared to travel extensively.

If this route might interest you, please write to Lindsey Allen, partner in charge of northern consultancy, giving reasons for your interest and indicating your career intentions. We offer competitive salaries and a package of benefits commensurate with a major professional practice.

Ernst & Whinney Management Consultants, P.O. Box 61, Cloth Hall Court, 14 King Street, Leeds LS1 2JN.

EW Ernst & Whinney

INTERNATIONAL BANKER

Our clients, a well established UK incorporated bank, wish to reinforce its team of line officers whose function it is to develop specialised international lending services through their overseas banking contacts and direct marketing in selected countries.

Potential candidates who should be in the 30-40 age group must have a proven track record of successful negotiation and completion of international lending involving borrower/guarantor and country risk assessment. A broad knowledge of the international banking community and a developed marketing capability are essential as is the ability to work in a team operation.

Salary plus the usual banking industry benefits will be by negotiation.

Write in strict confidence (listing any companies who should not be approached) with a detailed c.v. to:

Patrick B. Allen, Managing Director
BERESFORD ASSOCIATES LTD
Boundary House,
91/93 Charterhouse Street
London, EC1M 6HR

INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES DEALER/TRADER

A newly established subsidiary of a Scandinavian company is seeking to employ an experienced security trader with not less than 3 years of active and practical experience.

The candidate must be a responsible and entrepreneurial thinker, and capable of developing our international trading department by creating innovative and dynamic ideas.

The position offers the candidate opportunities for upward mobility in management and travel.

Salary would start at £25,000, in addition, a substantial year-end bonus would be commensurate with experience and review. Benefits would include those normally associated with senior executives.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence. Please send a cover letter with your c.v. to F.T. Box A9081, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY.

Thermal Scientific plc Group Company Secretary

Derbyshire c£18,000+car+stock options

A Company Secretary is required for Thermal Scientific, one of the world's leading groups in products based on thermal technology. Group turnover has increased to £20M and pre-tax profits to £2.9M following planned expansion in the UK and US.

The key tasks will be to provide a professional service for legal and statutory matters within the group and to give comprehensive administration support to the Chairman and Board. Self-motivation, flexibility and the ability to react quickly in a challenging growth environment are vital requirements.

Candidates, aged up to 45, should have appropriate legal or accountancy qualifications and at least five years' experience of company secretarial work. A proven track record as secretary or assistant secretary in a public company would be an appropriate background. This is a senior appointment reporting to the Group Finance Director and a commensurate salary and benefits package will be negotiated. The Company has a stock option scheme and career prospects are excellent in this expanding group.

Applications with full career details should be sent to:
Mr I. D. Gilbertson, Thermal Scientific plc
Barnford, Sheffield S30 2AU.

TRADED OPTIONS

Leading London firm of stockbrokers, with international connections and strong representation in institutional gilt and equity business, is establishing a presence in the traded options market.

We require professionally qualified people, or graduates, with experience and the ability to motivate themselves and others. Age 25-35.

Reply with full curriculum vitae to Box A9050, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY.

FOREX APPOINTMENTS

For Foreign Exchange and Money Market appointments at all levels consult a specialist

TERENCE STEPHENSON
Prince Rupert House, 8-10 College Hill, London EC4R 1AS - Tel: 01-248 0263
20 years market experience

PRIVATE CLIENTS

Independent Stockbroker

Due to the continuing expansion of our private client department we are about to recruit Portfolio Managers to run existing and new accounts in our London office.

The success of our company is built on our reputation for professionalism with personal service, and new technology has enabled us to provide the most efficient portfolio and stock surveillance. We will not only be looking for evidence of the right experience and self motivation, but also for the personal flair which will actively contribute to our expansion.

Graduates of 24 and over with several years appropriate experience in the financial services sector, should apply in confidence, enclosing a full Curriculum Vitae to:
N F Andrews, Greig Middleton & Co.,
78 Old Broad Street, LONDON EC2M 1JE.

GREIG
MIDDLETON
Members of The Stock Exchange

Accountancy Appointments

UK Controller



Hertfordshire

c. £28,000 + Bonus + Car



Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

In just eight years the company has become recognised as the innovative leader in the rapidly developing world of personal computing. Worldwide revenue in 1985 is expected to approach \$2bn, an increase of 30% on the previous year. The UK represents a key market for Apple and several new products have been successfully launched in the past year.

The UK Controller will report to the Managing Director and manage an able and enthusiastic team of 7. Prime responsibilities include the presentation and interpretation of management accounts, the development and execution of financial control systems and a major input into the decision making process of the senior management team.

You should be a qualified accountant, probably in your 30's. Ideally you will have worked in a fast moving marketing-led company and have experience of both line financial management and a wider role working with other functions. Of equal importance are the personal qualities required for outstanding success in this demanding environment: enthusiasm, commitment and highly developed interpersonal skills.

Please reply in confidence, giving concise career, personal and salary details, quoting Ref. ER800, to Martin Lawless, Executive Selection, Arthur Young Management Consultants, Rollo House, 7 Rollo Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NH.

Have you the potential to step outside of the traditional accounting role?

EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG GRADUATE ACCOUNTANTS

West Sussex

c. £15,000 + generous benefits

Our client is the international marketing and research division of one of the world's largest groups.

They wish to recruit young accountants, with well developed personal skills, for the specific opportunity to develop into disciplines well outside the finance function.

This is a unique and challenging opportunity, as they have created within the finance department an exciting environment offering planned career development, the potential for rapid promotion, and an ideal stepping-off point into other parts of the group.

Based in one of the more pleasant parts of the country, successful candidates will enjoy the advantages of easy access to central London, but may have to forgo the joys of daily commuting!

For further information on the company, the group and the roles, contact Caroline Benton on 01-836 9501, or write enclosing a c.v. to our London office quoting reference 5464.

410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS. Tel: 01-836 9501
26 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PT. Tel: 041-226 3101
113/115 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4JN. Tel: 031-225 7744
Brook House, 77 Fountain Street
Manchester M2 2EE. Tel: 061-236 1553

DOUGLAS LAMBIAS
Douglas Lambias Associates Limited
Accountancy & Management
Recruitment Consultants



OIL INDUSTRY ACCOUNTING

West End

Hamilton Brothers Oil & Gas is one of the largest and most active independent North Sea operators. Our fields include Argyll, Duncan, Innes and now the new Esmond gas complex which came on-stream just last month. As a direct result of this increased activity we have two openings available within our young and professional accounting group based in London.

Assistant Treasurer

A recent internal promotion has created this vacancy. Working with a minimum of supervision, you will be involved in a wide range of duties including the daily monitoring of bank balances, funding of payments via the on-line transfer system, liaison with partners to ensure timely receipt of funds and the administration of Hamilton's loans. A substantial amount of analysis work involving use of a personal computer and spreadsheets is required covering Royalties, VAT, and statistical returns to the Department of Energy and the Bank of England.

The nature of the job will favour candidates with previous oil industry experience who are either ACA/ACCA or graduate equivalents. A knowledge of Treasury matters and UK Royalties would be advantageous.

Assistant Management Accountant

This is a new opportunity for a part-qualified Accountant to join a small and highly-motivated finance team. The work involves the monthly preparation of management reports for our Consortia Partners and for senior management in the UK and US covering Hamilton's North Sea activities. You will also assist in the interpretation and calculation of cash requirements from Partners in respect of exploration, development and production expenditures as well as involvement in ad hoc exercises. Extensive use is made of personal computers.

Candidates should be resourceful and self-motivated. The position would suit a part-qualified ICMA/ACCA with a minimum of two years' experience in an accounting or analytical area. Graduates would also be considered.

Hamilton offer highly competitive salaries with an excellent benefits package. Please send full career details to Mrs G Baines, Hamilton Brothers Oil & Gas Ltd, Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6AQ.



Hamilton Brothers Oil and Gas Limited

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Financial Accountant

Nr. Cambridge, c. £12,000 + Benefits

This profitable, expanding company has a turnover of c. £30m and is the star performer of a diversified group. Continuous high growth means opportunities to advance and such a promotion results in this vacancy. Part of a young very professional financial team, responsibilities will cover the control and analysis, through a very competent staff, of debtors, creditors, payments and product costing. Candidates must be qualified with supervisory experience. Full relocation costs will be made to a very attractive area.

J.H.E. Davies, Ref: 37414/FT. Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a Personal History Form 01-734 6852, 6th Floor, Sutherland House, 5/6 Argyll Street, LONDON, W1V 1AD.

DEPUTY to FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

SURREY

neg. to £20,000 + CAR

A SUPER-DYNAMIC QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT aged c. 26-33 is sought by our client, a £100m annual turnover subsidiary of an INTERNATIONAL GROUP trading in fast-moving consumer goods.

The primary requisite is for speed of thought and action backed by the self-confidence to win over others by cogent and reasoned argument.

The successful candidate will spearhead a team of high-level executives monitoring and improving the profitability of core activities and will therefore have high visibility at BOARD LEVEL.

STRATEGIC PLANNING ability and a comprehensive management accounting background are very desirable. Promotional prospects are first-class and a suitable RELOCATION package is available.

Please telephone and send your C.V. to:
GEORGE D. MAXWELL, Managing Director
ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS EUROPE
1-3 Mortimer Street, London W1
Tel: 01-580 7695/7739 (direct)
01-637 5277 ext. 281/282



Financial Manager

Europe

A Senior Role - Dynamic FMCG Environment

Diversified, multinational leaders in the grocery trade, our Clients are a dynamic US company high in acquisitions.

Based South West of London, and responsible for the monthly review, analysis and consolidation of their European subsidiaries' company accounts, you will also prepare reports on profitability and analyse and interpret results for European marketing personnel.

Probably a Chartered Accountant with several years' post-qualification experience of managing people, foreign currency and computers, you will ideally have worked with FMCG. This is a positive role demanding initiative, the ability to cope with the complexities of vertical integration and exceptional communication skills. Experience of a US company would be an advantage.

A salary negotiable around £20,000 is supported by generous benefits which feature a company car and excellent career prospects.

Please write with full cv quoting ref. L566 to Questor Associates, 29 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6NF, or telephone on 01-630 9493.

Questor

SELECTION SPECIALISTS

Managing Director

c. £35,000 + car

The company for which we are acting is a world leader in its chosen field with probably an unmatched record of innovation and profitable growth. Its products have quite a high technological input and are sold to both OEMs and the after market. Current turnover is around £12.5 million with prospects of sales reaching £20 million in the medium term. A Managing Director is now required as a result of a group promotion. He or she will be responsible for recommending, agreeing and implementing company strategy. He or she will prepare

forecasts and budgets and will enjoy considerable freedom and autonomy to meet them. Candidates, aged 35-45, should preferably be graduates with a professional qualification in accountancy. They should have a first-rate record in profit accountable general management within a company manufacturing consumable products for industrial or office use. Earnings of some £35,000 plus car and top-hat pension are offered.

Location: Hertfordshire.
Please send full cv in confidence, to J.J. Jennings, Ref: GM34/945/FT.



PA Personnel Services

Executive Search - Selection - Psychometrics - Remuneration & Personnel Consultancy

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.
Tel: 01-235 0060 Telex: 27874

Accounting Manager - Services

Exploration Finance Department

LONDON

c. £21,000

British Gas, one of the UK's leaders in hydrocarbon exploration, has an excellent record of achievement and innovation in both commercial and exploration activities.

Growth in our Exploration and Production operations makes increasing demands on our finance function, and our Exploration Accounting Department has recently been reorganised to meet this major challenge. We are now looking for an exceptional person to manage the section responsible for the provision of financial management and development accounting services to the Corporation's exploration subsidiaries.

Applicants must have an appropriate accounting qualification and several years experience in a senior management role within a large organisation, preferably associated with the oil industry.

Salary and benefits are those normally expected of a large progressive organisation, including assistance with relocation expenses where appropriate.

To apply please write with full career details, and quoting reference ATH/PIN/0006, to: The Personnel Manager, British Gas, 59 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ.

BRITISH GAS

an equal opportunities employer

Chief Accountant Equatoria Region Agricultural Programme Sudan

As a continuation of earlier initiative, ERAP has been established, wholly funded by ODA, to strengthen the provision of regional services.

Reporting to the Project Director, the Chief Accountant will be responsible for financial accounting; maintenance of detailed accounts in respect of Government of Sudan funds and meeting Government accounting and audit requirements.

Other tasks include close liaison with other Officers and Section Heads in the preparation of orders and the financial aspects of annual work plans and budgets; and providing training for local staff.

Applicants should be British Citizens, and members of a recognised accountancy body with at least five years post qualifying experience, preferably gained overseas.

The appointment is on contract to ODA, on loan to the Government of Sudan for a period of two years. Salary (UK taxable) is in the range £18,250 to £24,150 pa, and includes an element in lieu of superannuation. A variable tax free Foreign Service Allowance, currently in the range £2,475 to £5,250 pa, is also payable.

For full details and application form, please apply, quoting ref. A5306/AF/FT, stating post commenced and giving details of age, qualifications and experience to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 3E1, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 8EA.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
Britain helping nations to help themselves

Financial Director

(designate)

Berkshire

c£25,000 + Car

THE COMPANY A profitable and expanding unique Hi-tech Group of Companies, with a turnover in excess of £11m, market and service computerised production control systems with a wide variety of applications.

THE OPPORTUNITY Recent reorganisation to facilitate future growth has created a challenging but rewarding career path for the successful individual.

YOU... will be professionally qualified, in your late 20's or early 30's, and be very confident of your management skills. You have the commitment to ensure success and the flexibility to work effectively in an informal and dynamic environment.

THE ROLE Reporting to the Managing Director you will initially be responsible for improving the efficiency of the financial and management information. Subsequently you will assume the role of Director controlling the accounting and financial functions, implementing new computer packages and improving performance by tightening procedures.

THE REWARDS Success in this position will create further opportunities, with the prospect of the Group 'going public' in 1987.

Please write or telephone Andrew Fowler, Regional Manager, for a personal history form quoting ref BBS604.



Management Personnel

Recruitment Selection & Search
2 Elm Court, Eton, Windsor, Berkshire.
Telephone: (07535) 54258

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If you are young, qualified and looking for a career with plenty of opportunities for travel, we're here to help you. With a wide selection of excellent positions available in international companies to fill your job requirements. Our service is personal, professional and completely confidential. We may have just what you've been looking for, so why not ring us today for an appointment or simply send us your CV?

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Louise Hunter
on
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Director - Finance and Administration

Leisure

To £25,000
+ Car

London



Arthur Young Executive Selection
A MEMBER OF ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

This company's success can be traced to its ambitious young management and its strong position in expanding luxury leisure markets. There are two operations: the first is the importation and distribution of the leading brand of whirlpools and luxury bathroom fittings. The company also designs and constructs leisure facilities, specialising in custom built swimming pools. Turnover is currently £2.5m with a growth rate of about 20% p.a.

This position has total responsibility for the accounting and administrative support functions. The first priority is the introduction of strict control systems and the provision of more meaningful management information. You will be expected to deputise for the Managing Director in his absence and participate in commercial decisions, by

interpreting the financial implications of alternative business options.

You should be a qualified accountant, probably in your early 30s. Your achievements to date will include at least three years commercial accounting experience, ideally with exposure to an expanding, marketing led company. Your success in this role will be determined by your commitment to the company's goals, your adaptability and interpersonal skills.

Please reply in confidence, giving concise personal, career and salary details, quoting Ref. EY799, to Heather F. Male, Executive Selection, Arthur Young Management Consultants, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3NH.

Financial controller

West London, c£25,000 + car



For the distribution division of the key UK subsidiary of an international consumer goods group which has turnover approaching £3 billion. The division operates through a national network of branches supplying the distributive and retail trades.

In a strong front line role, you will join the senior management team and report to the General Manager who expects a major contribution to business decisions. Your responsibility will be for a department which handles all accounting, performance monitoring and planning. There is work to be done on the improvement of management information and the further development of computer based systems.

You should be qualified and in your 30s, a capable accountant and manager with the ability to get behind the numbers and influence policy. This is a fast moving business and demands energy and initiative.

Career prospects throughout the group are excellent and the salary package includes generous large company benefits.

Please write enclosing a curriculum vitae and daytime telephone number to Stephen Blaney, Executive Selection Division, Ref. B258.

**Coopers
& Lybrand
associates**

Coopers & Lybrand Associates Limited
management consultants
Fleetway House
25 Farringdon Street
London EC4A 4AQ

Chief Accountant

c£18,000 + car Berkhamsted

Our client, the Outspan Organisation, is the marketing division of a large co-operative of fruit growers in the Southern Hemisphere with branch offices in a number of countries in Europe. They wish to appoint a qualified Chief Accountant for the European area to succeed the retiring incumbent. This is a senior management post reporting to the Chief Executive of the European operations.

The successful candidate will be expected to supervise effectively the accounting functions of the organisation - control systems, budgets, banking and insurance - but will also be responsible for Secretarial, Personnel and general administrative matters, including salary administration in several European countries, employment conditions, pensions and office management. Experience in all these areas will, therefore, be very important.

Particular importance is attached to experience in the handling of foreign exchange and in financial management. A close liaison must be maintained with the overseas Head Office to ensure that all available information for strategic decisions is communicated quickly and efficiently, that administrative systems are compatible and that policy implementation is consistent with Head Office requirements. Applicants should also have considerable experience of working with computerised systems in a multi-national context.

Starting salary will be around £18,000 and there are attractive benefits including a car, generous pension scheme and health insurance.

Please write, indicating how you meet our client's requirements, quoting reference Y421 to:

BinderHamlyn
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
Trevor Austin, Executive Selection Division,
BinderHamlyn Management Consultants,
8 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4DA.

Commercial Manager

Middlesex

c.£18,000
+ Bonus + Car

Our client is a fast growing subsidiary of a major international group in the high technology market. In every aspect of its operations our client relies for its success on its capacity to attract and organise the energies of top calibre people in an atmosphere of professional excellence. To help them administer and control their growth, and plan for future expansion, they require a Commercial Manager for their Headquarters.

The successful applicant will be responsible for:

- the total purchasing function including purchases in foreign currency;
- ensuring continued flow of product from suppliers through to customers on a timely basis including liaison with their customs clearance agents;
- ensuring that equipment requiring sub-assembly meets customer requirements in all aspects;
- safeguarding company assets at all times;
- liaison with UK and foreign customers;
- achieving cash collection targets.

The ideal candidate will be 28-35 years with a degree or professional qualification in accountancy or business administration. They will have at least five years' experience in the high technology industry and must be able to communicate successfully with senior management and other levels of staff.

An excellent remuneration package is offered, whilst other benefits include pension scheme and non-contributory private health and life assurance cover.

Letters of application, together with CV, salary progression and other relevant data should be sent without delay stating on a separate sheet those companies that you do not wish your application forwarded to.

Martin Piper, Grey Recruitment,
195 Euston Road, London NW1 2BN.

**GREY
RECRUITMENT
ADVERTISING**

Financial Controller

"an unsurpassed opportunity for a young accountant to make things happen"

Aged 28-32

c.£18,000+bonus+car

... a role which offers, on the one hand, responsibility for the finance/accounting aspects of this long established and profitable £5.5m turnover company and on the other, the challenge of belonging to the inner council - together with the Managing Director and Sales Director - and making decisions which count.

Major demands will be made on your expertise in:

- introducing budgetary controls, management accounts, effective costing and financial planning
- the further development of the mini computer system
- ... plus, of course, dealing with statutory accounts, company secretarial duties and the host of diverse activities inherent in small company life.

The company is pre-eminent in its field as a supplier of components to blue-chip end-users whose products serve diverse consumer needs in growth markets. The components - sourced from the continent - are customised in the company's own factories.

To take advantage of this opportunity, which has a Hertford location, you will be qualified with experience in a sales orientated manufacturing environment and well able to demonstrate the commercial flair so necessary for achieving success.

Please forward a comprehensive CV quoting Ref. MD649 to Dennis Fielding at Macmillan Davies, The Old Vauxs, Parliament Square, Hertford, Herts. SG14 1PU. Tel. (0992) 532552.

**Macmillan
Davies**

Macmillan Davies International Search Executive

New Post for Young Accountant

London-based

Globe Investment Trust with shareholders funds of over £500 million and funds under management of £1.5 billion, wishes to create a new post in its small Head Office Investment Department.

Investment Assistant

(unquoted investments)

A young Chartered Accountant (or similar professional) is needed to assist in the management of the increasing number of unquoted investments and property projects being made by Globe. The work will involve analysing new propositions in detail and monitoring existing investments. You will work in close conjunction with the Investment Manager and his team, who primarily manage the quoted portfolio. Your experience will have been gained either within a financial institution or from your present employers.

Starting salary will be negotiable depending on experience, and will be part of an attractive financial package. Appointment to a number of boards to represent the company may well follow.

To apply write in confidence with brief career details to Mr. J. P. Craze, Secretary Globe Investment Trust PLC, Electra House, Temple Place, Victoria Embankment, London WC2R 3HE Telephone 01-836 7766.



Globe Investment Trust P.L.C.

Jetsetours

Director of Finance

London up to £25,000

Required for the UK subsidiary of Jetset Tours, the largest travel company in Australia. Turnover of the UK company has expanded rapidly to £14m and substantial growth is planned. Reporting to the Managing Director, responsible for overall financial management and to develop further computer systems to meet the needs of expansion.

A qualified accountant is required, with sound computer systems involvement. Demonstrable commercial experience will be necessary to justify the maximum commencing salary shown.

Knowledge of the travel business is desirable but not essential.

Please reply with a full cv to
Barrie Pearson (Ref. JT)

LIVINGSTONE FISHER ASSOCIATES
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
Acree House, 82/84 Long Acre, London WC2E 6JW
Telephone 01-379 3461, Telex 985 3749
An associate of H. W. Fisher & Co

Financial Controller

SW London

c£17,500 + car

For a subsidiary of a major international group manufacturing a range of prestige consumer durables. It is a leader in its field in a highly competitive market.

Reporting to the Chief Financial Executive, your responsibilities will include financial and management reporting, cash management, budgeting and certain aspects of the secretarial function. A new computer is shortly being installed and you will play a key role in the planning and management of systems implementation.

Probably in your late twenties, you must be a qualified accountant with at least two years good quality experience in industry or commerce since leaving the profession. A background in a manufacturing environment would be an advantage. There are excellent prospects for career and salary progression.

Please write in confidence to Neil Cameron, quoting ref. N426, at 10 Bolt Court, London EC4A 3DB (telephone 01-583 3911).

**Chetwynd
Streets**

Management Selection Limited

Accountants for Management Consultancy

Leeds & Sheffield

to £20,000 + car

We are one of the leading management consultancies in the UK and internationally; we are looking for further first class consultants to join our expanding financial management practice in Yorkshire and North East England.

Successful candidates will be qualified accountants aged 28 to 35, probably with a degree, who can demonstrate proven achievement in industry or commerce. Experience must have included responsibility for systems development as well as line management in the finance function. Personal qualities will include the ability to communicate clearly both orally and in writing and the flexibility to tackle a broad mix of assignments.

We offer outstanding opportunities to gain experience in a wide variety of industries and there are excellent prospects for promotion within Peat Marwick for those who wish to pursue a career in consultancy.

Please write in confidence, enclosing a brief summary of your qualifications and experience, and quoting reference L/514 to Ian McBride at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., City Square House, 7 Wellington Street, Leeds LS1 4DW.

**PEAT
MARWICK**

ASSISTANT TAX MANAGER

City-based

Package to £20,000 p.a. including company car

The Corporation of Lloyd's which provides professional support to the Lloyd's of London Insurance Market is now seeking to recruit an Assistant Taxation Manager.

The successful applicant will report directly to the Taxation Manager and join a team responsible for agreeing the Corporation's own tax liabilities as well as providing support and advice to the Insurance Market on all tax matters worldwide.

Candidates should be either qualified accountants with some post-qualifying taxation experience or fully trained inspectors of Taxes.

A generous fringe benefits package includes a company car, non-contributory pension scheme, free life assurance, flex-time working, annual bonus, heavily subsidised restaurant and season ticket loan scheme.

Please write in the first instance with a full C.V. and details of current salary to: Mrs. S. M. Woolcott, Personnel Manager, Corporation of Lloyd's, London House, 6 London Street, London EC3R 7AB.

LOYD'S OF LONDON

Accountancy Appointments

Manager Financial Planning & Control C £30,000 + Car & Banking Benefits

This is a key role at the centre of a leading financial services group, managing a small professional team concerned with the economics and dynamics of the Group and its individual businesses.

The team is involved in establishing financial objectives appropriate to the businesses; participating in projects of strategic importance; evaluating sources of profitability; reviewing major spending plans; controlling and co-ordinating the preparation of financial plans and budgets; and monitoring actual performance.

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For an application form and a detailed profile of these posts (which have excellent career opportunities) please write or phone to: Tony Carter, Personnel Executive, LRC Industrial Holdings Ltd., Thames Road, Crayford, Kent DA1 4SB. Tel: (0322) 56131 ext. 218.

LRC Industrial Holdings Ltd.

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A member of the LRC International Group

Group Internal Auditor Manufacturing

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The need is for an ambitious chartered accountant with experience of multi-site manufacturing or distribution companies. The ideal candidate will be a member of a well-established internal audit department, or possibly from the accountancy profession.

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Please write in confidence to Michael Ping enclosing a detailed curriculum vitae and quoting reference F/335/P at Ernst & Whinney Management Consultants, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

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City of London

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The prospects are outstanding and the Group's future plans will provide challenging opportunities. The package can be tailor-made to suit the appointed person and can include a company car and mortgage subsidy etc.

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John P. Sleight FCCA

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While an accounting qualification is considered essential, the other most important requirements would be good inter-personal skills, an eye for detail, a well developed commercial awareness and a good knowledge of micro computers.

For further information please write enclosing a detailed career history and daytime telephone number to Richard Norman FCA, quoting reference J/2311.

EMA Management Personnel Ltd.
Hutton House, 20/23 Holborn, London EC1N 2JD.
Telephone: 01-242 7773 (24 hour).

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Our Client is the substantial City branch of a large German bank. They now wish to recruit a Manager - Financial Controlling and Accounting to succeed the present incumbent who returns to Germany at the year-end.

The Manager - Financial Controlling and Accounting will be responsible to the General Managers for the whole accounting, budgeting, planning and control functions of the bank, supported by a small staff, using sophisticated computer systems and presenting control information to UK and German management and Central Banks.

Candidates, aged probably 30 or over, must be qualified accountants with a

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Please write, in confidence, with full career details of your banking experience and quoting reference 2763/L to John W. Hills, Executive Selection Division, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

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plus benefits

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For full details, write in confidence to John Courtis at J&P Selection Consultants, 104 Marylebone Lane, London W1M 5PU, showing clearly how you meet our client's requirements, quoting ref. 7181/FT. Both men and women may apply.

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We view this as an excellent opportunity for an ambitious young professional in his/her late 20s, early 30s to make a significant contribution to the financial efficiency of the Group. It would be an advantage if your post qualification experience has had involvement in a related area, but we propose a comprehensive programme to introduce you to insurance and to multi currency insurance management. An attractive salary and benefits package is offered including a company car.

For more information and to arrange an early discussion, please forward a copy of your curriculum vitae to: Tim Baggott, Leslie & Godwin Ltd., Dunster House, Mark Lane, London EC3P 3AD. Telephone: 01-623 4631.

Leslie & Godwin Ltd.

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Middlesex

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The successful candidate will be a qualified accountant aged under 28 years, with a year's post qualification experience. He/she will possess good analytical skills, a strong personality and the ability to communicate effectively.

Written applications should be submitted, in strictest confidence, to Neil Gillespie or Colin Vasey at our London address, quoting reference number 5449.

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Accountancy Appointments

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London/Essex Borders £20-25k Package

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Following a period of review and consolidation our clients are planning further expansion by diversifying into other food-related sectors. The right individual will display the ability to direct the company's future by giving advice, guidance and specific recommendations for acquisitions. Ultimately the company's medium-term plans are to become a publicly listed corporation and previous experience in these areas would be beneficial.

Please write, with full CV, to Mr G. A. THOMPSON at the address below quoting Ref: GLJM on the envelope.

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London
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Such explosive growth will, however, make heavy demands on tight financial control and a flow of up-to-date and meaningful management information.

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Applicants should have at least 2 years' commercial experience including forecasting, sound business acumen, the ability to develop simple but effective systems and the mental agility to cope with a fast changing business.

The attractive remuneration package includes a car and a high potential profit sharing scheme will be negotiated.

Please send concise details, including current salary and daytime telephone number, quoting reference E2007, to W.S. Gillard, Executive Selection Division.

Thornton Baker Associates Limited, Fairfax House, Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6DW.

Group Financial Controller

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BinderHamlyn

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Tavistock Avenue, Executive Selection Division,
Binder Hamlyn Management Consultants,
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Finance Manager

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Ipswich

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consignment funding and sales reporting. In addition to managing the production of regular financial information you will prepare forecasts and one year plans and provide a financial service to the management. You will also have responsibility for management of the company car fleet working to agreed profit and resource targets.

The position is an ideal career development opportunity for a recently qualified

accountant in their mid-twenties with appropriate large company experience, gained either in the profession or industry. In particular we are looking for a commercial awareness and presence of personality which will enable you to make a front line contribution to the development of the finance function.

Opportunities for career progression are excellent either within Volvo or our parent company Lex Service PLC. The position carries an excellent starting salary plus benefits including a prestige company car, BUPA and non contributory pension, sickness and accident scheme, together with relocation assistance where appropriate.

Please write with full career details to Sally Cockburn, Manpower Development Manager, Volvo Concessionaires Ltd, Lancaster Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.

Key financial roles Gloucestershire area

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Plant Accountant

Attractive five figure salary.

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We ideally require a qualified Accountant with practical experience of cost systems in the chemical or a similar industry, and with highly developed analytical skills. This position carries prospects for advancement to general management via Financial Management.

For both positions, we offer excellent remuneration packages as indicated, and attractive benefits. Relocation expenses will be paid where necessary.

Please write with full career details or CV, or telephone for an application form to Mr K N Holloway, Personnel Manager, Engelhard Limited, Specialty Chemicals Division, Valley Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire GL14 2PB. Tel: Dean (0594) 22181.

ENGELHARD

Ambitious accountants

London West End

Our client is a key subsidiary of a major UK blue-chip company operating in a rapidly expanding commercial environment.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT

c.£17,000 + car + benefits ref: 305/P

A young, ambitious accountant with at least two years post qualification commercial experience is sought, who will be responsible for a team of 9 people providing a full accounting service in a very complex business environment.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

c.£15,000 + benefits ref: 315/P

This new position will provide a recently qualified commercially orientated accountant with experience in a challenging role. Together with a small team the person will be responsible for the provision of full management information including results, budget and financial forecasts as well as carrying out investigations on new business development.

Benefits include a profit share, bonus and low-cost finance loans. Promotion prospects are good.

Applications are forwarded to our client, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter.

Please write to Ernst & Whinney Management Consultants at 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU quoting the appropriate reference number and enclosing a detailed CV.

Ernst & Whinney

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

West Midlands c.£25,000 + car, etc.

This key appointment is with a major trading division of a substantial international group.

Reporting to and working closely with the Managing Director, the successful candidate will accept total responsibility for the financial management of the company and in particular have a sound understanding of, and the ability to communicate the needs of the company in terms of more highly sophisticated computerised systems development.

This opportunity will appeal to a qualified accountant (ACA, ACMA, ACCA) with a successful career profile to date gained within a commercially demanding process/manufacturing environment. The ability to advise and influence the commercial decision making policies of the company is an important pre-requisite.

Relocation expenses will be met where appropriate. For an early interview please write or telephone Mr. Brian Daniels, Managing Director, quoting ref: 85/1587 FT.

Daniels Bates Partnership

Daniels Bates Partnership, Josephs Well, Hanover Walk, Park Lane, Leeds LS3 1AB. Tel: (0532) 461571 (5 lines 24 hours).

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

GENERAL ACCOUNTING MANAGER

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Your considerable involvement in the company's activities will include preparing monthly and annual accounts, management reports, budgets etc., in addition to enhancing present systems, and developing and implementing new computer applications.

A progressive track record, ideally in fmcc, should be complemented by excellent communication skills and proven ability to manage and motivate staff.

A very competitive salary, up to £17,000pa, will be offered together with attractive benefits including company car.

Please write with full cv quoting project LS67, to Questor Associates, 29 Buckingham Gate, London SW1 6NF, or telephone 01-630 9493.

Questor

SELECTION SPECIALISTS

Finance Director

c. £28,000 + car Godalming, Surrey

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Please write giving concise career, personal and salary details to:

M. D. Robertson, Managing Director, Bookwise Service Ltd, Langham Park, Caeshall Lane, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1NG

Bookwise Service Ltd is a Member of the Octopus Publishing Group PLC

Syndicate Accountant

CITY

Circa £15,000

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We seek an accountant experienced in Lloyds' practices or a newly-qualified accountant with extensive exposure to the audit of Lloyds' syndicates.

The position merits a salary of about £15,000 p.a. and other substantial benefits.

Applications with a comprehensive c.v. should be made under Private and Confidential cover quoting the reference FT/SA on the envelope to:

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SECTION II - COMPANIES AND MARKETS

FINANCIAL TIMES

Thursday July 25 1985

Conveyor belting that's superior
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Fenner
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UAL in deficit after strike

By Our New York Staff

UAL, the parent of United Airlines, the largest U.S. carrier, was sent plunging deep into loss in the second quarter because of the 29-day strike by its pilots. A net loss of \$102.86m by the airline pushed the holding company to a deficit of \$97.07m, or \$2.79 a share.

In the year-ago quarter, UAL had achieved a profit of \$117m, or \$3.01 a share, with the airline contributing \$101.2m.

The latest setback was slightly eased by a 48 per cent jump in net earnings at UAL's hotels to \$11.2m. Mr Richard Ferris, chairman of UAL, said that the agreement which ended the strike had established pilot wage rates that will produce long-term savings needed by the airline to succeed in a competitive market. Although the airline had returned to near-normal flight schedules and is working to regain market share, efforts to recoup profits will be challenged by the intense price competition and somewhat softer economy.

He pointed out that the strike had eliminated the momentum needed to take full advantage of the peak summer travel season.

For the first half, UAL turned in a loss of \$103.79m, or \$2.84, compared with a profit of \$118.55, or \$3.22 a share, last time when it was halfway through what was to be its best year since 1978.

Group operating revenues in the latest quarter slid to \$1.19bn from \$1.82bn, leaving the half-time total down at \$2.78m, from \$3.47m.

Fermenta sees higher earnings

By Kevin Done in Stockholm

FERMENTA, the Swedish antibiotics and biotechnology group, has raised its profits forecast for 1985 to SKr 300m (\$38.53m), an increase of some 11 per cent from the earlier forecast of SKr 270m-SKr 280m and an increase of 268 per cent over 1984.

The group, which has been growing fast through a series of acquisitions in Europe and the U.S., achieved profits (before tax and extraordinary items) of SKr 81.6m last year on sales of SKr 448.6m. Group turnover is expected to quadruple this year to around SKr 1.4bn.

The new profits forecast could help to rekindle interest in the group from international investors, who gave a lukewarm response to last week's SKr 21bn share issue in the London capital market.

Some of the co-managers of the issue - led by Svenska International, the London subsidiary of Svenska Handelsbanken - failed last week to place their allocation of shares. Six of the 10-strong management group were either wholly or partly Swedish-owned institutions, and the group had less international flavour than had been hoped.

Fermenta is maintaining the hectic pace of its international expansion and announced plans yesterday for the takeover of a fermentation company in Brazil, its first move into South America.

MAN set to return to the black

By Jonathan Carr in Frankfurt

MASCHINENFABRIK Augsburg-Nürnberg (MAN), the West German truck maker and engineering group, broke even in the year to June 30 after a long period of heavy losses and expects to be well in the black in 1985-86.

MAN directors said the improved results came from the normal run of business, and do not include the extraordinary earnings from the recent sale of its 50 per cent stake in the MTU engines company.

MAN, which is owned by the GHH engineering group, said most of the proceeds from the sale of the MTU share would go to bolster reserves. It was also proposed to pay a 4 per cent dividend for 1984-85.

The exact sum realised from the MTU sale to Daimler-Benz has not been officially revealed, but is understood to be in the region of DM 500m (\$173.8m).

MAN has dragged itself back into the black after net losses reaching a combined DM 280.2m in the two previous years, due to a tough reorganisation and rationalisation programme.

Production has been concentrated at fewer facilities and the workforce has been cut sharply. MAN employs just under 30,000 people in the parent company and less than 45,000 in the group.

Alan Friedman, recently in Pordenone, on the task facing a modest former Fiat executive

Electrolux man prepares to clean up at Zanussi

"I AM not an expert on home appliances and probably I never will be," Sig Gian Mario Rossignolo, the 54-year-old chairman of Italy's Zanussi home appliance group, is a modest man, but a tough manager. Hand-picked by Electrolux of Sweden, which last year took over the crisis-ridden Zanussi, Sig Rossignolo is facing the challenge of his life - the restructuring of one of Europe's leading white goods companies and its successful integration into the Electrolux family.

While he may not be intimately familiar with the inside of a refrigerator or washing machine, Sig Rossignolo is well equipped to do what needs most to be done, namely the managing of a company which until recently has been technically insolvent.

It is too early to judge the Zanussi restructuring plan, which among other things calls for job cuts affecting nearly a third of the 16,000 workforce over the next three years and heavy capital spending in factory automation. But even in his first six months in the job Sig Rossignolo, who had more than 20 years' experience as a Fiat executive, has been busy working on new promotion, distribution and sales plans and has presided over tortuous negotiations with trade unions, the regional government of Friuli in northeastern Italy, where Zanussi is based, and government officials.

Sig Rossignolo, who frequently commutes by helicopter from his

home in Turin, where he is also chairman of the Italian subsidiary of Sweden's RIV-SKE concern, to Zanussi headquarters in Pordenone, leaves no doubt about his feelings for the former Zanussi management: "That management was clearly not very involved in day-to-day operations."

He also says Zanussi's financial situation was a lot worse than even Electrolux imagined when it finally took over in December. "The reality of this company was different from what we expected," Zanussi last year lost L125.9bn (\$84.7m), which wiped out two thirds of its newly-reconstituted capital base.

A large part of the 1984 loss stemmed from foreign exchange costs of servicing a dollar debt which has now been converted into lira as part of the rescheduling of Zanussi's L1,000bn debt over seven years.

Charges on the disposal of several companies which were peripheral to the white goods business were struck in last year's accounts, but more will contribute to the 1985 full-year loss of around L125bn to L130bn. The full-year loss is equivalent to the deficit in the first six months, when Zanussi lost and then recouped 3 per cent of its market share at home which is now back to around a quarter of the Italian market.

The Italian white goods market is in a difficult position. Zanussi has been hurt by other companies, including Candy, Indesit and Ariston,

which have cut prices to steal a march on the leader during its crisis. "We earn abroad and lose in Italy."

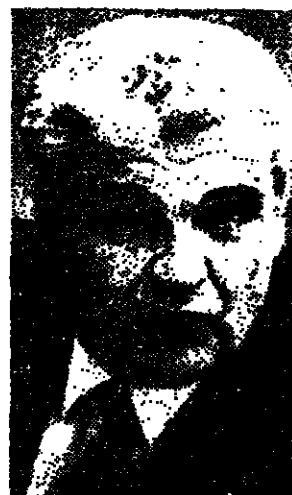
The Italian market has a destructive competitive structure," says Sig Rossignolo. Last year 66 per cent of Zanussi's L1,700 turnover came from abroad.

But while orders slumped in the first quarter of this year, the signs are that distributors will be taking 14 per cent more than last year during the second half of 1985. Meanwhile Indesit, the second largest Italian white goods maker, is facing serious problems and is seeking outside partners.

To get Zanussi into shape, Sig Rossignolo will first complete work on recapitalising the company through the conversion of L72bn of bonds held by Electrolux into shares. Electrolux's stake in Zanussi will remain at 49 per cent for the next few years with Fiat, Mediobanca and other Italian shareholders holding smaller stakes.

The most important work is the reorganisation of manufacturing - shifting refrigerator, washing machine and dishwasher production around the Zanussi plant network and introducing automation.

Zanussi plans to spend more than \$160m on streamlining production - it is now using 60 per cent of its capacity - and introducing new products. Where will the money to buy new technology come from? About L75bn should come from the Friuli regional government, which is a



Sig Gian Mario Rossignolo

10.5 per cent shareholder in Zanussi. The rest will come from the company's recapitalisation, from cash flow and from Electrolux.

As a result, Zanussi will disperse with 4,948 workers in Italy over the next three years. By the end of December the number of redundant will come to 2,850. Around 40 per cent of these 2,850 workers are already on temporary lay-off. This means Zanussi's workforce, which totalled 29,000 in 1982 and now stands at just over 18,000, will in 1988 be down to around 13,600. If the company's factory automation plan proceeds, it is likely that 1988 and 1989

will see additional redundancies of 1,000 workers a year.

Sig Rossignolo is making use of his Fiat experience (he still wears his watch strapped on the outside of his shirt sleeve like Fiat chairman Sig Gianni Agnelli) in his restructuring plan. He has hired as a consultant the Fiat engineer who recently serviced the car company's robotic engine plant at Terni.

He also reckons Zanussi products must be updated. "Zanussi products are still like old Fiat 500 models from the 1960s. We must move from a simple design to more sophisticated engineering and innovation, more micro-chips, more options and such," he says.

But how will Zanussi be integrated into the overall market and manufacturing strategy of its new parent, Electrolux? Sig Rossignolo says this is not hard and predicts integration will be complete by next year. He says Zanussi and Electrolux, which together have a quarter of the European home appliance market, have "an ideal situation."

Zanussi is hardly present in Electrolux's home territory of Scandinavia and is not present in Holland or Switzerland, where Electrolux is strong. It is strongest in the UK, West Germany, Spain and Italy. The two companies are already producing to each other's specifications, Sig Rossignolo adds.

As an example of the integration he says that in France, where top leading washing machines are more popular, Zanussi will buy

from Electrolux. In southern Europe, where front-loading machines are the norm, Zanussi will produce for Electrolux.

Sig Rossignolo says Zanussi hopes to be back in the black in the last month of this year on a monthly budget basis. Key to the new strategy will be streamlined manufacturing, which could result in lower overall turnover. "This company does not want to produce volume and lose money. I am not interested in making 4m units a year unless there is a profit margin. I want flexible manufacturing which can be expanded or changed on short notice," explains the chairman.

One lingering problem is Zanussi's 45 per cent stake in Seleco, the consumer electronics maker which was set up as an Italian political project. The venture, which makes 200,000 television sets and other products a year, is a drain on Zanussi resources and Sig Rossignolo says his goal is "to stop it from being a haemorrhage." But Electrolux-Zanussi is constrained by its overall agreement with the Italian Government and trade unions to remain inside Seleco.

It will take time, probably at least a year or 18 months, to judge how effective the Electrolux-Rossignolo remedy for Zanussi really is. One thing is certain, however: a programme is being tackled and, after years of uncertainty, Sig Rossignolo and his new managing director at Zanussi, Sig Carlo Verri, are taking a hands-on approach.

Du Pont cites strong dollar and weak economy after 39% slide

BY CHRIS CAMERON-JONES IN NEW YORK

DU PONT, the U.S. chemicals group, suffered a 39 per cent slide in net earnings and a 6 per cent dip in sales for the second quarter because of continued weakness in the country's industrial economy and the effects of the strong dollar.

Income was down from a record \$47m or \$1.91 a share, to \$29m, or \$1.10. This was, however, an improvement on the preceding quarter, when unusual charges of 66 cents a share left reported earnings at only 28 cents.

Analysts were already forecasting a lower outlook for 1985, but the quarter was below expectations and Du Pont shares fell 5% to \$59 1/4 in early trading.

Mr Edward Jefferson, the chairman, said the company expected a somewhat stronger second half, based on expected improvement in fibres results and savings from the early retirement programme completed in April. But he added that a significant improvement would depend on the economy and exchange rates.

Profit for the half year was down from \$61m or \$3.34, to \$33m, or \$1.36, on sales more than \$1.5bn lower at \$1.67bn. Turnover for the latest quarter was \$635m, against \$913m previously.

Net operating income declined in all sectors except petroleum refining, marketing and transport,

where there was a \$32m rise to \$90m. In the diversified industrial and specialty businesses there was a 33 per cent decline, with chemicals diving to \$21m, from \$78m a year ago, fibres down at \$45m, from \$69m, and a \$15m fall to \$45m in industrial and consumer products.

Biomedical products earnings plunged to \$4m from \$22m because of a fall in demand for drugs and lower prices for X-ray equipment.

Du Pont is among the top U.S. exporters. It estimates that, had the dollar maintained its early 1984 value, group earnings would have been a third higher for latest two quarters.

Tenneco's prospects improve in quarter

By William Hall in New York

TENNECO, the U.S. conglomerate that has been the subject of takeover speculation because of the depressed nature of some of its energy and farm-related businesses, appears to be nearing the end of its recent sharp profit slide.

The group, yesterday reported second-quarter net income of \$164m - down on last year's \$220m, but the highest quarterly earnings since midway last year.

Last year's \$1.45 a share earnings in the second quarter were inflated by 26 cents of special gains, partly reflecting the sale of a chemical facility. When that is stripped out, the second-quarter earnings of \$1.03 are down 13.4 per cent.

Tenneco bought International Harvester's farm equipment operations early this year and merged them with its own J. I. Case agricultural equipment operations. Case lost money in the early part of the year but was profitable in May and June, and the company is "confident" that the Case-Harvester operation will be profitable in the fourth quarter of 1985.

Sam Company, the Pennsylvania-based a 7 per cent rise in second-quarter net income to \$146m. Its results were helped by a sharp turnaround in its downstream oil refining and marketing operations, which produced a \$56m profit compared with a \$7m loss in last year's second quarter.

Mesa Petroleum, the master company for corporate raider Mr T. Boone Pickens, earned \$95.3m or \$1.30 a share in the second quarter. That included \$83m or \$1.23 a share in after-tax gains from the partial disposal of shares in Unocal,

Bull on target with break-even result

BY PAUL BETTS IN PARIS

BULL, the French nationalised computer group, managed to break even in the first half of this year after losing FFr 258m (\$29m) in the first half of last year and FFr 488m for all of 1984.

The break-even result appears to accelerate the recovery of the group, which has been aiming to make deep profits in 1986. Bull has undergone restructuring since losing FFr 1.55bn in 1982 and FFr 620m in 1983.

Barring unforeseeable events, the computer group expects to break even for the whole of this year. The recovery is good news for the French Government, which has been insisting that most large nationalised groups, except the Renault car company and the steel sector, return to the black by next year.

Other success stories in the nationalised sector include the Thomson electronics group, which man-

aged to cut its losses last year; Peugeot, the aluminium group; and Rhone-Poulenc, the chemicals concern, which have both already returned to profit.

Bull's group sales in the first half had grown by 25 per cent compared with the same period last year, to FFr 7.4bn. But the company said the figure was misleading because it included the restructuring of the commercial networks of a number of subsidiaries, including CII Honeywell Bull, Bull Sema, Bull Transac and Bull Mireval. The company is expecting group sales to increase by about the same 17 per cent level at last year, when they totalled FFr 13.6bn.

Separately, Cap Gemini Societe, the leading French computing services company, has reported a 26.8 per cent rise in first-half sales to FFr 1.02bn from FFr 809m. The company said group operating income rose 28 per cent in the period.

AT&T-Philips venture in red for first year

BY LAURA RAUN IN AMSTERDAM

AT&T-Philips Telecommunications, the American-Dutch joint venture, posted a loss of F156m (\$17.47m) on turnover of F1 603m in 1984, the first year of operations.

The deficit was primarily attributed to the company's premier product, the SESS digital switching system, which was acquired from AT&T and whose high development costs erased an operating profit from overall sales. Transmission equipment, which accounted for half of sales, turned in a profit.

The Hilversum-based company said the results were better than expected when the joint venture was established in December 1983. Mr Karel Hubea, executive vice-

president, had earlier said the company hoped to move into the black by next year.

For this year, AT&T-Philips forecast continued pressure on results, including the start up of the SESS switching-system factory in the Hague. Transmission activities, however, are seen reporting higher sales and profit and the analogue switching system, which sold better than expected, should contribute positively.

Mr Hubea has previously forecast that turnover would exceed F1 1bn this year and reach F1 3bn by 1990. The workforce is to be substantially increased, largely in the development area, to around 5,000.

Mitsubishi expands Ecu range

By Alexander Nicoll in London

MITSUBISHI Bank is expanding the range of the European currency unit through an issuance facility for certificates of deposit (CDs), believed to be the first CD facility dominated in Ecu.

The borrower, seeking funds to support its activity in the Ecu loan and bond market, has mandated Chemical Bank International to arrange an Ecu 50m five-year facility. When required, the Japanese bank's London branch would call on a tender panel of up to about 10 banks also active in the Ecu market to bid for three or six-month CDs.

The paper will carry interest at 1/2 per cent below London interbank offered rates (Libor). It is designed to appeal to the growing number of big players in the Ecu market, which has become quite active in both foreign exchange and deposits. In addition to the rapidly expanding Ecu bond market, there is fledgling business in Ecu CDs.

EUROBONDS

Market swallows Heinz offering

BY MAGGIE URRY IN LONDON

H. J. HEINZ took a tin-opener to the Euro-Australian dollar market and pulled out A\$37.5m through a five-year issue, said by traders to be very successful. The name, known to "a million housewives every day" - and the important retail investors in Europe, ensured a good reception for the deal.

Although some dealers said the terms were "sucky," offering the lowest issue yield in the sector since January 1979 with a coupon of 12 1/4 per cent and issue price of 100% meaning a 11.99 per cent yield, the bonds were trading at a discount of only 1/4 point compared with fees of 2 per cent. Lead manager for the deal is Orion Royal Bank with Commerzbank as co-lead.

The proceeds will not be swapped but will be used by Heinz for its Australian operations.

Later in the day Morgan Guaranty made its debut as a book runner in the Australian dollar sector with a A\$50m issue for SBSA Finance, which is indirectly owned by State

Bank of South Australia, itself owned by the state. This, too, was not swap-driven, and terms looked generous at a 13 per cent coupon and par issue price for the three-year bonds giving a yield 15 basis points above Australian Treasury paper. Some dealers argued that investors prefer longer maturities, but the issue was quoted within its 1 1/4 per cent commission.

Late in the day, Goldman Sachs launched a \$50m Eurosterling issue for Credit Lyonnais. This matures in January 1994 and pays a 10 1/2 per cent coupon. Issue price is 100% and fees are 2 per cent to give a yield close to UK government bonds. It came too late to trade actively.

With the Eurodollar market still virtually closed, although slightly firmer yesterday, only a special deal has any chance of success. Swiss Bank Corporation International had just such an issue yesterday - a \$50m convertible for one of the fastest-growing U.S. companies, The Limited, which sells women's

clothing through stores and mail order catalogues.

The bonds have a 15-year life and are issued at par. The coupon was indicated at 8 1/4 to 6 1/2 per cent, while the conversion premium is expected to be in the 20 to 24 per cent range. Investors have a put option after five years to give a yield of 9 1/2 per cent in case the share price's strong performance should falter. The issue was trading around 102.

The holiday mood is well set in Switzerland and the foreign bond market had a quiet day with prices unchanged.

Banque Paribas (Suisse) announced a SwFr 100m five-year private placement for Denki Kagaku Kogyo, a Japanese electrochemical company, with equity warrants.

The D-Mark bond market saw mainly professional trading yesterday with good interest in recent issues. The ECSC 7 per cent 1985 bonds, launched earlier this month, gained 1/2 point to 100 1/4.

GM profit falls 28% despite sales rise

By Paul Taylor in New York

GENERAL MOTORS, the worlds largest car maker has reported a sharp 28 per cent decline in second-quarter net earnings to \$1.16bn - despite a 14.3 per cent increase in factory unit sales and a 14.8 per cent rise in total revenues to \$24.8bn.

Wall Street had been expecting a poor year-on-year earnings comparison because of the costs of new models and plant and other strategic investments the company has been making, but the decline was somewhat larger than expected.

GM's second-quarter net earnings, equivalent to \$3.52 a share, compare with net earnings of \$1.69bn or \$5.09 a share in the 1984 second quarter when revenues totalled \$21.8bn.

The latest results mean first-half net earnings fell by 31 per cent to \$2.23bn or \$6.78 a share on revenues of \$48.71bn compared with net earnings of \$3.22bn or \$10.23 a share on revenues of \$44.47bn a year earlier.

IU Int hit by losses at truck unit

By Our New York Staff

IU INTERNATIONAL, the Philadelphia-based trucking, waste-management and agribusiness group, has suffered a second-quarter net loss of \$38.7m, or \$1.25 a share, due largely to its troubled truck subsidiary.

The loss, which exceeded earlier estimates, compared with a profit of \$10.57m, or 30 cents in the year-ago period and a loss of \$9.9m in the preceding quarter.

Mr John Gilroy Christy, chairman, said that without the Ryder/PLE truck offshoot, which the group plans to spin off, IU would have shown a modest pre-tax profit. Total shipments and revenues have been substantially cut at Ryder, mostly because of a decision to forgo marginal short-haul freight business, but there was also loss of share in the long-haul market.

For the first half, IU's loss emerged at \$43.62m, or \$1.62 a share, against a profit of \$12.47m, or 45 cents.

Gencor unit lifts payout

By Kenneth Marston in London

THE South African Gencor group's Trans-Natal Coal subsidiary is raising its final dividend for the year to June 30 to 35 cents (18 U.S. cents). The total for the year is thus brought to 85 cents against 80 cents for 1983-84.

The Canadian Cominco's 62.5 per cent-owned Vestergren Mines, which operates the Arctic lead-zinc-silver Black Angel mine in Greenland, reports first-half earnings of C\$200,000 (U.S.\$142,000), or 4 cents per share. This compares with a loss of C\$2.8m in the same period of last year.

During the second quarter of this year, 40,800 tonnes of zinc concentrates and 7,800 tonnes of lead concentrates were shipped. A year ago, a scheduled shipment of 36,600 tonnes of zinc concentrates and 14,400 tonnes of lead concentrates was delayed until the first week of July by adverse ice conditions. Vestergren has declared a dividend of 15 cents, payable on August 29.

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July 1985

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Particulars of the Notes are available in the statistical services of Etsel Statistical Services Limited. Copies of the listing particulars relating to the Notes may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) from the Company Announcements Office of the Quotations Department of The Stock Exchange, Throgmorton Street, London EC2, up to and including 26th July, 1985 or during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) at the addresses shown below up to and including 8th August, 1985.

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25th July, 1985

INTL: COMPANIES & FINANCE

Singapore plans to widen role of financial markets

BY CHRIS SHERWELL IN SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE'S POWERFUL banking authorities have decided to widen the tiny domestic bond market, an historic move which will transform the way the Government funds itself and will alter the country's savings and investment patterns.

In a separate development, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) has ordered the redrafting of controversial legislative proposals which would have tightened regulations of the local security industry.

The two moves, privately disclosed in the last week, have excited Singapore's financial community because they promise major developments for the country as an international financial centre.

The plan to widen the Singapore dollar bond market was unveiled by MAS officials at an unusual meeting last week with

representatives from commercial banks, merchant banks, finance companies, discount houses, stock exchange members, and insurance companies.

Currently when the Government needs to borrow money it issues bonds to the Central Provident Fund (CPF), which manages a compulsory savings scheme for all Singapore employees, and to the preferentially treated Post Office Savings Bank (POSB), which captures a large proportion of voluntary savings.

This system, while ingeniously funding the past development of Singapore's infrastructure, has stifled the growth of a domestic bond market. Critics now say the scheme has outlived its usefulness and that the Government ought to compete in the market for the funds it needs.

It appears that this will now

happen, once the Cabinet has confirmed the change. Decisions will also be necessary on what happens to Government debts already held by the CPF, the POSB and other financial institutions.

How CPF funds will be managed in future remains unclear, but the prospect that they might be used differently has stimulated additional hopes that some might be managed privately. This could in turn provide the basis for a growth in fund management in Singapore, which is seen as a key component of the country's future growth as a financial centre.

The separate decision to redraft the proposed Securities Industry Bill follows complaints last month from stockbroking firms over plans to increase MAS surveillance of the whole securities industry. Bankers also voiced their concern.

Fujitsu revises forecasts downwards

By Yoko Shibata in Tokyo

FUJITSU, Japan's leading computer and electronics group, has revised downwards its earnings forecast for 1984-85, proving it is not immune from the current semiconductor industry recession.

Fujitsu now expects to suffer its first double-digit profit decline in five years in the year to March 1986, due to a sharp fall in the price of memory integration circuits, one of the company's main products. Group pre-tax profits are expected to fall by 15.7 per cent to ¥130bn (\$546m) compared with the initial projection of a 15 per cent profit gain. Net profits are also expected to fall, by 11.8 per cent to ¥78.5bn, on sales of ¥1,823bn.

The revised forecasts were made as Fujitsu announced its group results for 1984-85. Net profits increased by a substantial 33.5 per cent to ¥88.03bn, on sales of ¥1,562.26bn, up 19 per cent from the previous year. Net profits per share were ¥88.51, compared with ¥59.41.

Weak sales of video cassette recorder (VCR) tapes have led TDK, the world's largest maker of ferrite and magnetic tapes to report group net profits ahead by only 9.6 per cent to ¥16.5bn in the first half year to May on sales 8.6 per cent higher at ¥211.84bn. Earnings per share were ¥274.2 against ¥250.22. The company has also revised downwards its forecasts of full-year parent company results.

The value of sales by the magnetic recording tapes division increased by only 1.3 per cent to account for 43.7 per cent of the total. The volume of VCR tapes increased considerably, but stiff competition led to price cuts of 15 per cent.

Electronic materials and components sales increased by 15.2 per cent by value to account for 22.7 per cent of turnover.

Parent company sales rose by 7.7 per cent to ¥184.74bn, pre-tax profits by 11.3 per cent to ¥31.31bn, and net profits by 10.1 per cent to ¥15.18bn.

For the full year, TDK had hoped to report pre-tax profits and net profits of ¥69bn and ¥33bn, respectively, on sales of ¥1410bn. It now estimates pre-tax profits and net profits at ¥63.5bn and ¥30.5bn on sales of ¥1390bn.

The dividend total remains unchanged at ¥40 per share.

Reduced profits for state sector

SINGAPORE'S 58 state sector companies, which in scale outstrip both the private sector and foreign multinationals, mostly suffered reduced profits—and in some cases severe losses—in the year to March, according to figures given to Parliament by the Government yesterday, writes Chris Sherwell.

The companies—managed along commercial lines and covering manufacturing, trading, petrochemicals, shipbuilding and financial services among other activities—have contributed significantly to the

island state's development. The Government itself now has plans to privatise some of its holdings, starting with Singapore International Airlines, the national flag-carrier.

The biggest and most important company is Temasek Holdings, and its net profits were more than halved from \$826.2m to \$810.4m (U.S.\$47.6m) in 1984. The two other main holding companies—Sheng-Li Holdings and MND Holdings—showed smaller falls to \$379.5m from \$394.4m and to \$341.3m from \$352.2m respectively.

Bombay SE restrains share price rises

BY R. C. MURTHY IN BOMBAY

THE BOMBAY Stock Exchange, India's largest, imposed on Tuesday its stiffest ever restriction, short of suspending trading, to restrain a runaway rise in share prices.

Brokers now have to deposit with the BSE 40 per cent of their daily turnover in all share purchases. Share sales have been made exempt. Shares of 1,600 companies are traded on the exchange.

The move follows an unprecedented 20 per cent rise in share values over the past week fuelled by prospects of a good harvest.

The rise was triggered by the 1985-86 budget, the first presented by the Rajiv Gandhi government in mid-March. The All India Share Index of the Economic Times jumped by some 180 points from 311.3 the day before the budget.

The stock exchange tried several measures to curb speculation. It suspended trading in shares of the 55 most actively traded companies and margins of 25 per cent were imposed on trading in shares daily identified as highly volatile.

The increase in activity on

India's stock exchanges since the budget has been attributed to a burst of speculative and investor interest in shares.

Following an easing of restrictions on the corporate sector and subsequent good corporate results, Tata Iron and Steel Company led the way with a four percentage point increase in its dividend to 21 per cent for the year to March.

The Economic Times index touched an all time high of 492.2 points on Monday. The 40 per cent margin brought share values down on Tuesday.

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

NEW ISSUE

May 1985



The Kingdom of Spain

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The Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank, Limited	First Chicago Limited
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Midland Bank plc	The Mitsubishi Bank, Limited
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Agent

Chemical Bank

July 1985

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES and FINANCE

Commodore unveils Amiga computer

BY PAUL TAYLOR IN NEW YORK

COMMODORE International, the once high-flying home computer group, has announced its long-awaited Amiga machine - a sophisticated home computer with dazzling colour graphics and stereo sound, which will sell, in its basic version, for \$1,295.

The Amiga's success is seen as crucial for Commodore in its attempts to stem recent losses, including a \$20.8m deficit in the March quarter. But the introduction of the new machine, one of the few new home computers introduced since IBM brought out its ill-fated IBM PC Jr, is also seen as a key test for the troubled U.S. personal computer industry.

The new computer also represents a significant change in strategy for Commodore, which has aimed most of its products, like the highly successful Commodore 64, which sells for about \$200, at the cut-throat, low-price end of the home computer market. In offering the Amiga with a basic price tag of over \$1,000, Commodore is positioning it in direct competition with products from other companies such as IBM and Apple Computer.

In particular, the new system combines and enhances many of the features found on Apple's 16-month-old Macintosh computer, while an extra option will allow it to run IBM PC-compatible programmes, including many of the best-known business software packages.

American Express in flat second quarter

BY OUR NEW YORK STAFF

AMERICAN EXPRESS, the U.S. financial services group, reported flat second-quarter earnings of \$140m or 61 cents a share against \$138.7m or 64 cents in the same period of 1984. Revenues grew by 21 per cent to \$3.62bn from \$3.15bn.

First-half net earnings grew by 14 per cent to \$295m or \$1.28 a share from \$255m or \$1.18 a year earlier on revenues which were 20 per cent higher at \$7.3bn.

The group's results were announced on Tuesday when American Express also disclosed a further \$17m addition to loss reserves at its troubled Fireman's Fund insurance business.

It also brought in Mr John Byrne, chairman and chief executive at Geico, the U.S. motor insurance group to head the Fireman's Fund insurance holding company.

FT INTERNATIONAL BOND SERVICE

The list shows the 200 latest international bond issues for which an adequate secondary market exists. The following are closing prices for July 24.

U.S. DOLLAR STRAIGHTS				Change on		Yield	
Issued	Bid	Offer	day	week	Yield		
100 10/1/86	107 1/2	107 3/4	+0 1/4	11.41			
100 10/1/87	105 1/2	105 3/4	+0 1/4	11.40			
100 10/1/88	103 1/2	103 3/4	+0 1/4	11.39			
100 10/1/89	101 1/2	101 3/4	+0 1/4	11.38			
100 10/1/90	99 1/2	99 3/4	+0 1/4	11.37			
100 10/1/91	97 1/2	97 3/4	+0 1/4	11.36			
100 10/1/92	95 1/2	95 3/4	+0 1/4	11.35			
100 10/1/93	93 1/2	93 3/4	+0 1/4	11.34			
100 10/1/94	91 1/2	91 3/4	+0 1/4	11.33			
100 10/1/95	89 1/2	89 3/4	+0 1/4	11.32			
100 10/1/96	87 1/2	87 3/4	+0 1/4	11.31			
100 10/1/97	85 1/2	85 3/4	+0 1/4	11.30			
100 10/1/98	83 1/2	83 3/4	+0 1/4	11.29			
100 10/1/99	81 1/2	81 3/4	+0 1/4	11.28			
100 10/1/00	79 1/2	79 3/4	+0 1/4	11.27			
100 10/1/01	77 1/2	77 3/4	+0 1/4	11.26			
100 10/1/02	75 1/2	75 3/4	+0 1/4	11.25			
100 10/1/03	73 1/2	73 3/4	+0 1/4	11.24			
100 10/1/04	71 1/2	71 3/4	+0 1/4	11.23			
100 10/1/05	69 1/2	69 3/4	+0 1/4	11.22			
100 10/1/06	67 1/2	67 3/4	+0 1/4	11.21			
100 10/1/07	65 1/2	65 3/4	+0 1/4	11.20			
100 10/1/08	63 1/2	63 3/4	+0 1/4	11.19			
100 10/1/09	61 1/2	61 3/4	+0 1/4	11.18			
100 10/1/10	59 1/2	59 3/4	+0 1/4	11.17			
100 10/1/11	57 1/2	57 3/4	+0 1/4	11.16			
100 10/1/12	55 1/2	55 3/4	+0 1/4	11.15			
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100 10/1/14	51 1/2	51 3/4	+0 1/4	11.13			
100 10/1/15	49 1/2	49 3/4	+0 1/4	11.12			
100 10/1/16	47 1/2	47 3/4	+0 1/4	11.11			
100 10/1/17	45 1/2	45 3/4	+0 1/4	11.10			
100 10/1/18	43 1/2	43 3/4	+0 1/4	11.09			
100 10/1/19	41 1/2	41 3/4	+0 1/4	11.08			
100 10/1/20	39 1/2	39 3/4	+0 1/4	11.07			
100 10/1/21	37 1/2	37 3/4	+0 1/4	11.06			
100 10/1/22	35 1/2	35 3/4	+0 1/4	11.05			
100 10/1/23	33 1/2	33 3/4	+0 1/4	11.04			
100 10/1/24	31 1/2	31 3/4	+0 1/4	11.03			
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100 10/1/26	27 1/2	27 3/4	+0 1/4	11.01			
100 10/1/27	25 1/2	25 3/4	+0 1/4	11.00			
100 10/1/28	23 1/2	23 3/4	+0 1/4	10.99			
100 10/1/29	21 1/2	21 3/4	+0 1/4	10.98			
100 10/1/30	19 1/2	19 3/4	+0 1/4	10.97			
100 10/1/31	17 1/2	17 3/4	+0 1/4	10.96			
100 10/1/32	15 1/2	15 3/4	+0 1/4	10.95			
100 10/1/33	13 1/2	13 3/4	+0 1/4	10.94			
100 10/1/34	11 1/2	11 3/4	+0 1/4	10.93			
100 10/1/35	9 1/2	9 3/4	+0 1/4	10.92			
100 10/1/36	7 1/2	7 3/4	+0 1/4	10.91			
100 10/1/37	5 1/2	5 3/4	+0 1/4	10.90			
100 10/1/38	3 1/2	3 3/4	+0 1/4	10.89			
100 10/1/39	1 1/2	1 3/4	+0 1/4	10.88			
100 10/1/40	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.87			
100 10/1/41	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.86			
100 10/1/42	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.85			
100 10/1/43	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.84			
100 10/1/44	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.83			
100 10/1/45	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.82			
100 10/1/46	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.81			
100 10/1/47	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.80			
100 10/1/48	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.79			
100 10/1/49	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.78			
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100 10/1/52	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.75			
100 10/1/53	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.74			
100 10/1/54	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.73			
100 10/1/55	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.72			
100 10/1/56	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.71			
100 10/1/57	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.70			
100 10/1/58	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.69			
100 10/1/59	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.68			
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100 10/1/64	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.63			
100 10/1/65	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.62			
100 10/1/66	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.61			
100 10/1/67	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.60			
100 10/1/68	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.59			
100 10/1/69	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.58			
100 10/1/70	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.57			
100 10/1/71	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.56			
100 10/1/72	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.55			
100 10/1/73	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.54			
100 10/1/74	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.53			
100 10/1/75	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.52			
100 10/1/76	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.51			
100 10/1/77	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.50			
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100 10/1/79	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.48			
100 10/1/80	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.47			
100 10/1/81	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.46			
100 10/1/82	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.45			
100 10/1/83	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.44			
100 10/1/84	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.43			
100 10/1/85	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.42			
100 10/1/86	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.41			
100 10/1/87	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.40			
100 10/1/88	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.39			
100 10/1/89	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.38			
100 10/1/90	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.37			
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100 10/1/93	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.34			
100 10/1/94	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.33			
100 10/1/95	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.32			
100 10/1/96	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.31			
100 10/1/97	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.30			
100 10/1/98	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.29			
100 10/1/99	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.28			
100 10/1/00	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.27			
100 10/1/01	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.26			
100 10/1/02	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.25			
100 10/1/03	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.24			
100 10/1/04	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.23			
100 10/1/05	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.22			
100 10/1/06	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.21			
100 10/1/07	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.20			
100 10/1/08	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.19			
100 10/1/09	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.18			
100 10/1/10	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.17			
100 10/1/11	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.16			
100 10/1/12	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.15			
100 10/1/13	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.14			
100 10/1/14	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.13			
100 10/1/15	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.12			
100 10/1/16	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.11			
100 10/1/17	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.10			
100 10/1/18	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.09			
100 10/1/19	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.08			
100 10/1/20	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.07			
100 10/1/21	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.06			
100 10/1/22	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.05			
100 10/1/23	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.04			
100 10/1/24	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.03			
100 10/1/25	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.02			
100 10/1/26	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.01			
100 10/1/27	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	10.00			
100 10/1/28	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.99			
100 10/1/29	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.98			
100 10/1/30	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.97			
100 10/1/31	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.96			
100 10/1/32	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.95			
100 10/1/33	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.94			
100 10/1/34	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.93			
100 10/1/35	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.92			
100 10/1/36	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.91			
100 10/1/37	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.90			
100 10/1/38	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.89			
100 10/1/39	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.88			
100 10/1/40	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.87			
100 10/1/41	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.86			
100 10/1/42	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.85			
100 10/1/43	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.84			
100 10/1/44	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.83			
100 10/1/45	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.82			
100 10/1/46	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.81			
100 10/1/47	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.80			
100 10/1/48	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.79			
100 10/1/49	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.78			
100 10/1/50	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.77			
100 10/1/51	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.76			
100 10/1/52	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.75			
100 10/1/53	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.74			
100 10/1/54	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1/4	9.73			
100 10/1/55	0 1/2	0 3/4	+0 1				

UK COMPANY NEWS

Pit strike fails to dent Dowty

WITH A 21 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £44.23m, Dowty Group's result for the 1984-85 year was at the top end of recently revised market expectations.

Along with encouraging prospects for the current year, the announcement was enough to lift the shares 4p on the day to 170p.

The group's mining division, which it was feared had been affected by the year-long strike, performed well, actually increasing its share of overall operating profit. Mr Robert Hunt, the chairman, attributes the improvement to increased business overseas, together with the orders for roof supports in the UK. This helped to mitigate the downturn in spare and conveyors.

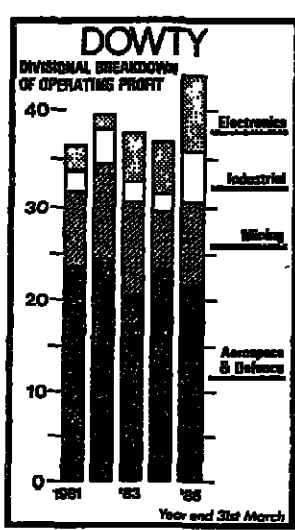
In contrast, the aerospace division suffered in the second half from prolonged industrial relations problems, and saw a decline in operating profit over the year.

There were increased contributions from the two other divisions, electronics and, particularly, industrial. Mr Hunt says that the more satisfactory level of profits from the latter should be sustained.

He adds that the current group order book stands at £483m—30 per cent up on last time—with increases in all divisions. Half of the increase relates to delivery during 1985-86.

Aerospace is now set to expand and improve its level of profitability, but mining orders are unpredictable, and with short lead times, the chairman says it is difficult to forecast sales for the latter part of the current year. Electronics should expand rapidly, enhanced by recent acquisitions and by seeking new overseas markets.

For the period to March 31 1985, over half of the group's total sales of £462.67m (£402.49m) came from the first time from overseas and export, which comprised £290.53m against £217.37m. Exchange rate variations benefited the group to the tune of £1.3m at the pre-tax level.



Profits were also enhanced by the inclusion of results from acquisitions Gresham Lion and Steebek during the year, and the

disposal of interests in a related company.

The chairman says that these factors have been more than offset by the substantial increase in expenditure on private venture development. Redundancy and closure costs were well down at £2.48m (£5.59m).

Dowty moved into a position of interest received in the year, with £414,000 against a £550,000 charge, but tax was much higher at £16.92m (£9.59m). Attributable earnings came out barely ahead at £27.15m (£28.81m), and the higher total dividend—an unchanged final of 2.8p lifts the total to 5p (4.5p) after the increased interim—left a lower retained profit of £16.53m.

The chairman says that finance required for working capital and capital expenditure was more than adequately provided for by funds generated from trading operations. The scale of acquisitions necessitated a modest increase in net borrowing to a total of £12m.

See Lex

Beecham stresses potential in U.S.

SIR Ronald Halstead, chairman of Beecham Group, told the annual meeting yesterday that the most dramatic change during the 1984-85 year was the growth of the group's U.S. business.

Profits in the Americas—primarily the U.S.—increased by 39 per cent, and the region now accounts for one-third of total group sales and pre-tax profits.

Sir Ronald added: "The U.S. is a large and dynamic market. It is a competitive economy which is relatively free of government restrictions, and is one of our biggest opportunity areas. We are well placed to expand in what is the largest market in the world."

He also praised the U.S. system for the approval of new pharmaceutical products, which he said was more "streamlined" than in the UK. "The U.S. Government regards their pharmaceutical industry as an important wealth creator and export earner."

"It would be beneficial to the British economy and job prospects if our Government were as helpful to the British pharmaceutical industry and recognised its great value as an exporter and wealth creator," he said.

In consumer products, the current year has begun well. British-American Cosmetics, which was well on its way to being integrated with existing operations.

In the UK, where the group previously had virtually no cosmetics business, Letherie and Yardley were performing well, and there was now a firm base capable of significant expansion, both domestically and in export markets.

Burmah £18m expansion into U.S. and Colombia

BY IAN HARGREAVES

Burmah Oil, Britain's oldest oil exploration company, yesterday signalled a major extension of its ambitions by agreeing to pay \$25m (£18m) for a series of oil and gas prospects in Colombia and the U.S.

The deal represents Burmah's most ambitious advance in the exploration scene since its glory days in the 1960s when it found the first oil in the UK sector of the North Sea.

Since its financial crisis in the early 1970s, Burmah has been forced to cut back upstream oil activities, but this year has made two other decisive moves: it bought a portfolio of onshore UK acreage from Taylor Woodrow and big aggressively and successfully in the ninth round of UK licensing.

Mr Lawrence Urquhart, Burmah's managing director, said that by 1986, Burmah would be spending \$30m a year on exploration, a 80 per cent increase on the current figure.

He said the company was still looking for additional opportunities, possibly involving expansion into one additional developing country. The aim, he said, was to ensure that upstream oil contributed 25 per cent of Burmah's earnings, with a further 25 per cent from chemicals and 50 per cent from the Castrol subsidiary.

The latest expansion comes through the purchase of Leed Petroleum, a Denver-based independent oil company, from Atlantic Oil and a group of private investors which includes the company's management.

Included in the sale is a subsidiary, Leed Colombia, which has a 25 per cent working interest in three areas in the Llanos basin of Colombia covering more than 1m acres.

These areas are relatively untested, although one well in the northern part of the block was suspended as a discovery. The Llanos basin is the site of

Occidental's 1983 discovery of an oilfield estimated to contain 150 barrels of oil. Shell recently bought a 50 per cent stake in this Cano Limon field for \$1bn.

Two of the three areas in which Burmah has acquired a stake, Rio Aniporo and Yalera, are shared with Elf Aquitaine and Teneeco and the third, Rio Tame, with Occidental and Shell. In each case, Burmah has a 25 per cent stake.

Leed acquired drilling rights in these areas in 1983, agreeing to a work programme of one well per contract per year over a six-year agreement. Lacking the necessary funds, Leed later sold 75 per cent of its interest, before now selling the remaining interest to Burmah.

The exact price of the takeover has not been stated, but the \$26m commitment over five years includes Burmah's share of drilling costs for three wells a year.

Woodhouse & Rixson climbs to £0.5m

Woodhouse & Rixson (Holdings) lifted pre-tax profits from £24,000 to £532,000 in the half year to June 30 1985. The interim dividend is raised from 0.25p to 1p net and a minor rise is forecast, which would produce a total for the year doubled at 2p per share.

Based on the excellent start, the directors remain confident that 1985 will be a year of further substantial progress—last year, the company made £282,000 pre-tax. However, shareholders are reminded that due to the incidence of holidays, there are two less working weeks in the second half.

Sales increased from £4.57m to £5.49m. Turnover of the continuing businesses—ring-rolling, open and closed die forging and spring making—showed a comparable increase from £4.19m to £5.49m, a 31 per cent rise.

The directors say this encouraging performance reflects a more widely spread

customer base and a reduced break-even point, stemming from the plans implemented since mid-1984 and referred to last March in the company's annual report.

Since that date, and as part of the company's ongoing plans, a Wagner ring mill has been purchased to replace the existing ring-rolling plant at Faraday Road, as was announced at the time of the AGM. The company has also improved its open die forging capability by acquiring an 800 tonne press together with an attendant manipulator. These purchases have been made at very beneficial prices, the directors state.

The directors say the actions taken will increase capacity, capability and improve operating efficiencies, and will provide the company with a solid foundation for the medium-term future. The mill is in the course of installation and is due to be com-

missioned in September while the press is anticipated for commission in early 1986. The potential earnings benefits therefore should start later in the current year and continue thereafter.

Shareholders are told that much of the cost, inclusive of removal, refurbishment and installation, has already been incurred. This amounts to £250,000 out of the total project costs of £445,000. In spite of these expenditures, net borrowings have reduced.

comment

Woodhouse & Rixson has made more in its first half than some expected it to make over the year so it was hardly surprising to see the shares put on 4 1/2p to 36p. One could be forgiven for wondering whether it was more true eagerness to spread the good tidings that led the group to get its interim result out so promptly. Virani

Group (UK), Mr Nazam Virani's hotel, leisure and property group, has built up its shareholding in Woodhouse to 14.3 per cent and there must have been a certain amount of resentment at seeing it picking up the stock on the cheap. Rightly so: Woodhouse is on course for an excellent year now that it has divested itself of its loss-making operations. There is an element of uncertainty over the full year figures because the group's biggest markets—the oil, aerospace and defence industries—tend to be fickle and Woodhouse's order book is only about six weeks long. Nevertheless £1m looks likely, putting the shares on a prospective p/e ratio of 5 after a 31 per cent tax charge. Mr Virani says a bid is not in the offing but the shares would merit a higher rating on the group's performance alone.

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MCCORQUODALE

Some of our strong points

International Success. In recent years McCorquodale has successfully established a profitable presence in the North American specialist print and publishing markets. The Group's long established ventures elsewhere around the world continue to flourish.

Solid Investment in Advanced Technology to give our skilled employees and our customers the technical edge they must have. Our continuing investment ensures this.

Strong Decentralised Management. Perhaps the best proof of this is our consistent performance, based on a clearly defined strategy and its disciplined implementation.

A Balanced Spread of Activities. Our companies' operations are focused upon the specialised printing and publishing markets at home and overseas.

Commitment to our Customers. Our investment programme has been planned and executed with their immediate and long term interests in mind.

A Consistent Growth in Sales and Profits over the last Five Years. The figures speak for themselves.

UK ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY—Indices of industrial production, manufacturing output (1980=100); engineering orders (1980=100); retail sales volume (1975=100); retail sales value (1980=100); registered unemployment (excluding school leavers) and unfilled vacancies (000s). All seasonally adjusted.

	Ind. prod.	Mfg. output	Eng. orders	Retail sales vol.	Retail sales value*	Unemp.	Vacs.
1984							
2nd qtr.	102.4	100.4	107	110.2	130.1	3.026	154.0
3rd qtr.	102.3	101.3	107	111.1	133.3	3.076	165.1
4th qtr.	103.4	101.2	105	113.6	164.0	3.103	162.6
December	103.8	101.9	104	115.6	194.1	3.108	161.3
1985							
1st qtr.	104.9	101.3	92	112.6	133.9	3.138	157.5
2nd qtr.				114.9		3.174	169.5
January	104.0	100.1	89	111.8	134.4	3.124	157.2
February	104.2	101.0	95	112.0	136.0	3.144	156.1
March	106.4	102.5	106.1	113.8	158.5	3.147	159.2
April	106.7	101.1	91	114.1	140.3	3.176	166.7
May	107.8	100.9		114.6	142.0	3.177	167.1
June				116.1		3.179	174.8

OUTPUT—By market sector; consumer goods, investment goods, intermediate goods (materials and fuels); engineering output, metal manufacture, textiles, leather and clothing (1980=100); housing starts (000s, monthly average).

	Consumer goods	Invest. goods	Intmd. goods	Eng. output	Metal mfg.	Textile etc.	Hous. starts*
1984							
1st qtr.	100.5	95.7	110.2	98.0	113.8	96.6	16.2
2nd qtr.	101.6	96.8	105.5	98.8	107.6	97.7	18.0
3rd qtr.	102.0	97.7	104.6	100.3	110.3	98.2	16.3
4th qtr.	102.5	98.7	106.1	102.7	110.7	98.7	15.3
December	102.0	98.0	106.0	100.0	107.0	99.0	13.9
1985							
1st qtr.	101.7	100.1	106.5	101.2	108.0	97.9	13.8
January	101.0	100.0	106.0	99.0	104.0	97.0	11.7
February	102.0	100.0	108.0	101.0	108.0	98.0	13.2
March	102.0	103.0	110.0	103.0	110.0	99.0	14.6
April	101.0	100.0	112.0	101.0	112.0	97.0	17.9
May	101.0	101.0	114.0	101.0	109.0	97.0	19.9

EXTERNAL TRADE—Indices of export and import volume (1980=100); visible balance; current balance (£m); oil balance (£m); terms of trade (1980=100); excluding reserves.

	Exports	Imports	Visible balance	Current balance	Oil balance	Terms of trade	Resv. trade
1984							
1st qtr.	108.7	112.1	- 34	+966	+2,322	97.3	16.75
2nd qtr.	107.2	117.1	-109	+903	+2,423	96.9	15.51
3rd qtr.	108.9	119.8	-109	-512	+1,804	96.7	15.26
4th qtr.	117.5	126.1	-108	+373	+1,468	96.1	15.52
December	119.2	126.2	-107	+ 47	+743	96.0	15.69
1985							
1st qtr.	118.7	125.6	-107	+123	+1,462	96.6	14.80
January	116.6	118.6	- 20	+402	+926	96.0	15.52
February	121.7	124.6	- 29	+207	+675	95.1	15.35
March	117.8	133.7	-155	-486	+260	95.5	15.33
April	119.6	128.3	-108	+223	+684	96.8	14.63
May	119.4	118.4	+ 224	+724	+835	97.1	12.96
June							14.22

FINANCIAL—Money supply M0, M1 and sterling M3, bank advances in sterling to the private sector (three months' growth at annual rate); building societies' net inflow; HP, new credit; all seasonally adjusted. Clearing Bank base rate (end of period).

	M0	M1	M3	Advances	HP	Base rate
1984						
1st qtr.	4.1	10.1	8.2	12.6	2,699	2,574
2nd qtr.	4.6	24.5	11.1	15.9	1,795	2,576
3rd qtr.	5.3	10.2	6.3	9.9	1,628	2,813
4th qtr.	9.6	24.3	12.4	15.9	2,422	2,946
December	12.2	27.3	12.1	22.4	1,004	972
1985						
1st qtr.	2.2	0.7	9.1	15.2	1,511	3,146
2nd qtr.	8.1	32.4	19.9	12.2	1,523	12.50
January	5.0	9.0	13.6	16.3	822	1,168
February	3.1	5.0	4.6	13.3	474	1,013
March	1.3	1.2	9.2	16.0	214	965
April	2.2	18.8	15.5	19.7	907	1,037
May	4.2	23.2	18.4	17.7	615	1,038
June	5.7	44.6	23.8	20.2	401	12.50

INFLATION—Indices of earnings (Jan 1980=100); basic materials and fuels, wholesale prices of manufactured products (1980=100); retail prices and food prices (1974=100); FT commodity index (July 1982=100); trade weighted value of sterling (1975=100).

	Earnings	Basic materials	Wholesale mfg.	RPI*	Foodst*	FT* comdty.	Strg.
1984							
2nd qtr.	155.9	124.3	132.0	330.9	329.1	305.06	79.8
3rd qtr.	158.6	124.1	132.8	332.9	330.8	283.85	78.0
4th qtr.	164.1	149.1	134.3	358.3	328.8	288.64	74.1
December	165.3	143.4	134.9	358.5	327.6	289.64	74.1
1985							
1st qtr.	163.4	146.2	136.6	362.9	332.8	298.22	72.0
2nd qtr.	162.0	139.4	132.4	375.3	333.4	278.13	78.9
January	163.4	145.3	135.9	358.8	330.9	298.98	71.5
February	164.6	147.6	136.6	362.7	332.5	298.73	71.2
March	168.1	145.5	137.5	366.1	335.4	298.22	73.0
April	169.4	140.8	139.2	373.9	338.8	293.08	78.3
May	169.5	138.5	139.5	375.6	339.3	279.98	78.7
June	175.8	138.6	139.6	375.4	340.1	278.13	79.9

* Not seasonally adjusted.

ADVERTISEMENT
Royal Trust Appointment

The Right Honourable, The Earl of Cromer, K.G., G.C.M.G., M.B.E., P.C.

The Right Honourable, The Earl of Cromer, K.G., G.C.M.G., M.B.E., P.C., has been appointed Chairman and a Director of Royal Trust Bank (Jersey) Limited and The Royal Trust Company of Canada (C.I.) Limited. Lord Cromer succeeds Senator Ragnald Jean, O.B.E., who has been appointed to the Presidency of the Finance and Economics Committee of the States of Jersey.

The Earl of Cromer, a member of H.M. Privy Council, was a Managing Director of Baring Brothers & Co. Limited from 1948 to 1961 and from 1965 to 1970 a director of a number of public companies in the U.K. From 1959 to 1961 he was British Economic Minister in Washington U.S.A. and British Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation. From 1961 to 1966 Lord Cromer was Governor of the Bank of England; in 1970 he was appointed British Ambassador to the U.S.A. where he remained until 1974. Lord Cromer is currently Chairman of the International Advisory Council of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, a Director of Shell Transport & Trading Co. Ltd., Daily Mail and General Trust Company, the Robeco Group of Rotterdam, Baring Bank & Trust Company, and an Advisor to Baring Brothers & Co. Ltd., London, to IBM Europe and to Marsh & McLennan Companies Inc. of New York.

Royal Trust Corporation is the parent entity of a group of companies providing banking, financial and trust services through subsidiaries and associated companies in Great Britain, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, the Caribbean and elsewhere.

Royal Trust Corporation of Canada, the major operating subsidiary of Royal Trustco Limited, is Canada's leading trust company, providing personal and corporate financial and trust services from coast to coast. In Jersey, Royal Trust offers personal and corporate banking services including commercial and mortgage lending, investment and pension fund management.

LADBROKE INDEX
324-428 (unchanged)
Based on FT Index
Tel: 01-427 4411

Mount Charlotte surges to £7.3m at six months

Mount Charlotte Investments, the rapidly-expanding hotels group, more than doubled its pre-tax profits over the 26 weeks to July 24 and is lifting its interim dividend from 0.64p to 0.53p net per 10p share.

The results, showing taxable profits 106 per cent ahead at £7.3m, compared with £3.5m, include the five Skean Dun Hotels in Scotland and the Royal Scot Hotel, London, which were not acquired until the second half of 1984.

So far this year the group has acquired three hotels—the Invercauld Arms, at Braemar, in January, the Astor Hotel, in Plymouth, in May, and the Johnstone House, at Humber, also in May. The hotels were paid for in cash.

For the opening 26 weeks group turnover rose by 61 per cent, from £18.98m to £30.5m. Trading profits surged by £4.04m to £3.5m—margin improved from 24.5 per cent to 25.5 per cent. Interest charges took £1.41m, against a previous £1.12m.

Tax accounted for £1.02m (nil) to leave available earnings £2.73m higher at £2.6m.

The company says the corporation tax charge was reduced due to the excess of capital allowances over the corresponding depreciation and relief for losses brought forward.

comment

Mount Charlotte Investments is making the most of the third

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED				
	Current payment	Date of payment	Corresponding dividend	Total dividend
A & M Hire	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Allied Textile	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Bentley	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Bootham Engineers	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Brassey	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Drayton Far East	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Drayton Japan	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Drayton Premier	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Fleming Fletchling	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
James's	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Kenyon Securities	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Leeds Investment	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Mount Charlotte	0.53	Sept 3	0.11	0.64
NBC Inc	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Osprey Comms	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52
Woodhouse & Rixson	0.41	Sept 3	0.11	0.52

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated.

* Equivalent after allowing for scrip issues. † On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. ‡ US\$ stock.

§ Unquoted stock.

good year in a row for Britain's hoteliers. The company has wasted no time in rejuvenating its hotel acquisitions—the Skean Dun chain and the Royal Scot—reaping from them a £2.5m contribution to pre-tax profit. Equally, the remaining hotels registered a pre-tax profit increase of about 35 per cent. The group seems set for a 17m pre-tax this year, putting the shares up 2p to 88p, on a multiple of about 13 times fully diluted earnings and a 20 per cent tax charge. The outlook for 1986 and beyond is governed to a great extent by the prospects

for the hotel trade as a whole, particularly in London. Bulls of the sector argue that the demand from tourists and business travellers continues to grow so strongly that there is no sign yet of any downturn in what has been traditionally a cyclical industry. The bears warn that the recent rise of the pound, should it persist, might trigger such a downturn by driving away many foreign visitors. So far the evidence, at Mount Charlotte at least, seems to favour the bulls, with the group indicating strong interest in bookings for 1986 and even for 1987.

Good start at Allied Dunbar

THE PRE-BUDGET boom in pension sales on fears, unfounded, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would tax pension schemes, enabled the Allied Dunbar Group (formerly Hambro Life Assurance) to record a successful new business start for the first half of this year.

The company, now a member of BAT Industries, recorded a

19 per cent rise in new initial contributions, the measure used to assess the new business pattern of linked life companies, to £30.8m, compared with the first half of 1984.

New annual premiums over the period were up by a quarter at £82.4m. But the underlying figures showed buoyant pension business offsetting lower life

Life business was down by around a third to £11m, while pension premiums rose by two-thirds to over £50m.

On lump sum business, life and pension sales were down by around 4 per cent, with a 20 per cent fall in pension sales just failing to cover lower sales of life funds.

Overall total lump sum business of the group was 22 per cent higher at £197m.

Total funds under management of the group as at June 30 1985 were £3.7m, up 23 per cent higher than 12 months previously.

Mr Sid Lipworth, deputy chairman of Allied Dunbar, said that the downturn in life single premiums reflected a change in the group's marketing with more emphasis on unit trusts.

Bootham recovery set to continue

Bootham Engineers has continued to recover and has turned in a taxable profit of £238,000, against £208,000, for the six months to end-April 1985.

The board says it is encouraged by current trading and believes that progress made to date in improving results will continue.

The interim dividend is being restored through a payment of 2p, which compares with last year's solitary final of 6p. First half earnings per share were considerably higher at 14.15p (1.86p).

Turnover advanced from £4.06m to £4.47m and generated a operating profit of £201,000, compared with £126,000. Bootham provides a national coverage of specialised engineering repairs and reclamation technology.

Interest payments were down at £63,000 (£80,000). Tax was £90,000 (£17,000), leaving a net £147,000 (£19,000).

Camco raises net income in second quarter

Camco, a U.S. oil services offshoot of Pearson, raised second quarter net income by 43 per cent from \$2.7m to \$3.85m (£2.75m) or from 37 cents to 53 cents per share. Net sales for the period to June 30, 1985 were 8 per cent higher at \$42.96m (\$39.84m).

For the first six months, net sales were \$55.05m (\$79.01m) and net income came to \$6.74m (\$6.75m) or 62 cents per share (same). The 1984 period included a one-time \$2.3m or 30 cents per share benefit related to DISC deferred tax forgiveness.

Second quarter expenses and gross margin percentages remained constant in relation to last year. The results included a 10 cents per share gain from the sale of a subsidiary, American Technology Corporation.

The new building is just one measure of the remarkable change in the fortunes of a company founded 49 years ago by Mr Rubin's parents as the Liverpool Shoe Company. The family still holds 57 per cent of Pentland's shares.

Flashed in 1983, Pentland was hit badly by over-capacity in the UK shoe industry in the late 1960s and was then involved in the collapse of London and Counties Securities at the start of the 1974 fringe banking crisis. London and Counties held 38 per

Martin Dickson on the remarkable rise of Pentland Industries

An entrepreneur's dream

IT IS the stuff of which entrepreneurs' dreams are made: in August 1981 Pentland Industries, a small British industrial trading company, invested \$77,500 to buy a 95 per cent stake in a tiny U.S. firm called Reebok, which was struggling to establish itself as a North American distributor of athletic footwear.

Next week, after an extraordinary expansion on the back of the American "keep fit" boom, Reebok will be floated on the U.S. Over-the-Counter market with a market capitalisation of some \$230m-\$250m.

This explains why Pentland has been one of the London stock market's best performing shares both this year and last. The shares (adjusting for scrip issues) have risen from around 18p in early 1984 to a recent high of 86p, before falling back on profit-taking. It closed at 240p last night.

"Looking back on Reebok with hindsight," says Mr Stephen Rubin, Pentland's 47-year-old chairman, "we just did everything right: we had the right management, the right sourcing, the R & D capacity and the finance: with help from our bank the thing grew enormously from a very small capital base."

Mr Rubin, a lawyer by training, with a distinctive shock of white hair and a penchant for bow ties, was speaking at Pentland's large new £2m headquarters in Finchley, North London, which was officially opened earlier this month by Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, in whose constituency the office is located.

Reebok's crucial breakthrough came when it designed a new

kind of athletic shoe aimed specifically at the then fast-growing aerobics market. The shoe was a quality product, at the top end of the market, with a distinctive soft leather upper.

Aerobics shoes proved a launching pad for the Reebok name and for other products: tennis shoes, running shoes and boxers' boots—all with sufficient fashion content to appeal to the mass market.

Reebok sales took off last year,

sporting market — next year Reebok will be tackling the biggest sector of all, basketball boots — whilst the company is still just beginning to look at the rest of the world.

"But we've got to be one step ahead of the market," he adds. "If we stop innovating, we're dead."

Reebok is being floated off (together with various LK offshoots) partly because the U.S. management, which owns 40 per cent, wished to capitalise on its success and partly because Pentland wanted to reduce the financing pressures on it, and avoid being swamped by its offshoot.

"We had reached a 'tall was dog' position," says Mr Rubin. The sale of shares will raise some \$30m of new money for Reebok. Pentland will raise \$5m by disposing of part of its stake, which will fall from 55 per cent to around 43 per cent.

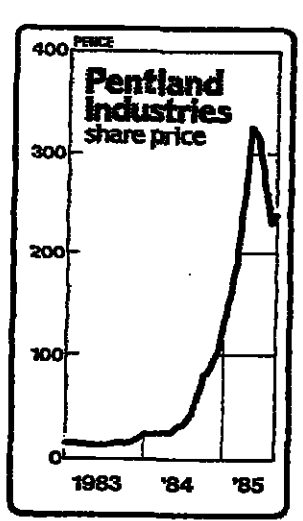
The success of Reebok has tended to obscure the fact that Pentland's other businesses have been doing well, with profits rising to over £2.5m last year (more than the entire group in 1984) and earnings per share doubling.

Some 70 per cent of turnover comes from shoe trading and manufacturing. Priestley Footwear, which makes ladies' fashion shoes, has seen a particularly sharp rise in both output and productivity.

The flotation will leave Pentland with some £14m of cash in the balance sheet, much of which will be used to acquire new businesses.

During the past year it has already acquired for £300,000, 75 per cent of H & H Refrigeration of Blackburn, which supplies and services fridges and other electrical equipment, and 51 per cent of Holmes Products, a U.S. importer of domestic fans and heaters, for \$450,000 injected into the business.

Both deals follow the principle of taking a majority stake in a business, but leaving management with a slice of the equity as an incentive to produce results. The hope is that this might one day produce another Reebok.



Mr Stephen Rubin, chairman of Pentland

This year analysts are forecasting £22m.

Pentland's involvement in Reebok began when it was approached by Mr Paul Fireman, an American who had founded the company in the U.S. but had problems in both funding the business and finding the right manufacturers to make the shoes he wanted to market.

Pentland, whose own manufacturing plants are relatively small, used its trading experience to find manufacturers in the Far East. Reebok's crucial breakthrough came when it designed a new

soaring to £56.6m from £8.5m in 1983. And in the first half of this year alone they reached £30.3m with profits up from £1.93m to £17.8m.

But can it sustain growth of this kind in a highly competitive market prey to the changing whims of fashion? The U.S. company Nike — a major rival — suffered a sharp fall in earnings last year, though it — perhaps significantly — was way behind Reebok in responding to the aerobics boom.

Mr Rubin says there are still huge opportunities in the U.S.

BELL'S ESTIMATE ANOTHER YEAR OF RECORD PRE-TAX PROFITS IN 1985

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY
Interim—Adams, Gibbon, D. J. Security, Alarms, Derby Trust, Edin'burgh American Assets Trust, GRA, Hill, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ladies' Pride, Meggit, Nationwide Leisure, River Plate and General Investment Trust, Scottish American Investment.

FUTURE DATES
Anglo American Ind. Corp. Aug 27
Meisel Closures Sept 3
Royal Dutch Petroleum Aug 8
"Shell" Transport and Trading Aug 8
Trencherwood Aug 14
Equity Finance Trust July 29
Victor Products Aug 14

ADVERTISEMENT

Royal Trust Appointment



Nigel Robson

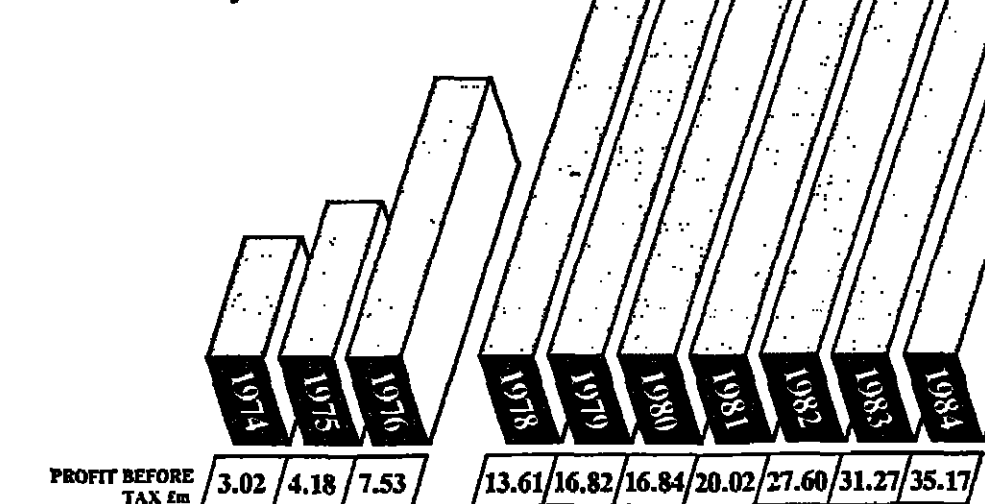
Hartland M. MacDougall, Chairman, is pleased to announce the election of Nigel J. Robson to the Board of Directors of Royal Trust (Jersey) Limited, and his appointment as Chairman of The Royal Trust Company of Canada, the London-based subsidiary bank of Royal Trust Limited.

Mr. Robson, a Fellow of the Institute of Bankers, brings a wealth of banking experience to his new position. He succeeds Sir Francis Sandilands, who retired after ten years as Chairman in London.

Mr. Robson is Chairman of Alexander Howden Underwriting Limited and a Director of a number of other companies. He was Chairman of Grindlay's Bank from 1977 to 1983.

Royal Trust Limited is the Canadian parent company of the Royal Trust group which provides banking, financial and trust services in Canada, Great Britain, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, the Caribbean and elsewhere.

Bell's confirm that Pre-Tax Profits for the year ended 30th June 1985 will be ahead of those for the year ended 30th June 1984.



Note: Years 1974 to 1976 inclusive are the twelve month periods to 31st December. Years 1978 onwards are the twelve months period to 30th June.

This advertisement is published by Arthur Bell & Sons plc whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.



1983 The Queen's Award for Export Achievement

STAY WITH THE WINNING TEAM REJECT THE GUINNESS BID

Gold Mining Companies administered by the Johannesburg Mining and Finance Corporation Group

Reports for the quarter ended 30 June 1985

Egoli Consolidated Mines Limited Group

Group totals				
	Quarter ended 30 June 1985	Quarter ended 30 June 1984	Year ended 30 June 1985	Year ended 30 June 1984
Operating results				
Revenue	21,875	20,823	89,583	89,583
Cost of sales	11,455	10,321	44,111	44,111
Profit	10,420	10,502	45,472	45,472
Operating expenses	179,882	179,882	724,171	724,171
Profit	110,735	110,735	454,720	454,720
Finance income	211,828	113,870	171,827	171,827
Finance expense	327,115	327,115	1,244,771	1,244,771
Profit	111,793	111,793	454,720	454,720
Revenue from gold production	4,988,917	3,015,721	14,980,840	14,980,840
Less working costs	3,988,447	1,972,625	12,979,674	12,979,674
Profit	1,000,470	1,043,096	1,980,166	1,980,166
Less other net expenses	79,828	79,828	319,758	319,758
Net income before and after taxation	920,642	963,268	1,660,408	1,660,408
Corporate expenses	989,428	117,728	17,352,617	17,352,617

West Witwatersrand Gold Mines Limited

Operating results				
	Quarter ended 30 June 1985	Quarter ended 30 June 1984	Year ended 30 June 1985	Year ended 30 June 1984
Revenue	21,875	20,823	89,583	89,583
Cost of sales	11,455	10,321	44,111	44,111
Profit	10,420	10,502	45,472	45,472
Operating expenses	179,882	179,882	724,171	724,171
Profit	110,735	110,735	454,720	454,720
Finance income	211,828	113,870	171,827	171,827
Finance expense	327,115	327,115	1,244,771	1,244,771
Profit	111,793	111,793	454,720	454,720
Revenue from gold production	4,988,917	3,015,721	14,980,840	14,980,840
Less working costs	3,988,447	1,972,625	12,979,674	12,979,674
Profit	1,000,470	1,043,096	1,980,166	1,980,166
Less other net expenses	79,828	79,828	319,758	319,758
Net income before and after taxation	920,642	963,268	1,660,408	1,660,408
Corporate expenses	989,428	117,728	17,352,617	17,352,617

Good judgement has been made in taking and keeping up additional tax which will result in the profit before tax of 12,000,000. From underground mining increased to 17,000,000 in the current quarter.

* The Auditor's report on the accounts for the year ended 30 June 1985 is unqualified.

For and on behalf of the Board
Johannesburg Mining and Finance Corporation Group
Secretary
per Mr. J. L. L. L. L.
25 July 1985

New Issue

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

July 5, 1985



Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur

Guaranteed Yen Bonds No. 5 (1985)

40,000,000,000 Japanese Yen

6.7% Bonds Due 1995

guaranteed by

The Republic of France

The Nomura Securities Co., Ltd.

Yamaichi Securities Company, Limited Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd. The Nikko Securities Co., Ltd.

The Nippon Kangyo Kakumaru Securities Co., Ltd.	New Japan Securities Co., Ltd.	Sanyo Securities Co., Ltd.
Wako Securities Co., Ltd.	Kokusai Securities Co., Ltd.	Merrill Lynch Securities Company, Tokyo Branch
Salomon Brothers Asia Limited, Tokyo Branch	Goldman Sachs International Corp.	Morgan Stanley International Ltd., Tokyo Branch
Smith Barney, Harris Upham International Incorporated, Tokyo Branch	S.G. Warburg Rowe and Pitman Akroyd (Japan) Inc.	
Okasan Securities Co., Ltd.	Osakaya Securities Co., Ltd.	Dai-ichi Securities Co., Ltd.
Yamatane Securities Co., Ltd.	Pacific Securities Co., Ltd.	Bache Securities (Japan) Ltd., Tokyo Branch
Toyoko Securities Co., Ltd.	Marusan Securities Co., Ltd.	Universal Securities Co., Ltd.
Kidder, Peabody & Co. Incorporated, Tokyo Branch	The Kaisei Securities Co., Ltd.	National Securities Co., Ltd.
Nichiei Securities Co., Ltd.	Mito Securities Co., Ltd.	Meiko Securities Co., Ltd.
Vickers da Costa Ltd., Tokyo Branch	Hinode Securities Co., Ltd.	Ichiyoshi Securities Co., Ltd.
Utsumiya Securities Co., Ltd.	Kosei Securities Co., Ltd.	Takagi Securities Co., Ltd.
The Chiyoda Securities Co., Ltd.	Towa Securities Co., Ltd.	Naigai Securities Co., Ltd.
The Nippon Securities Co., Ltd.	Maruman Securities Co., Ltd.	Okatoku Securities Co., Ltd.
Jardine Fleming (Securities) Ltd., Tokyo Branch	The Izumi Securities Co., Ltd.	Daito Securities Co., Ltd.
Chuo Securities Co., Ltd.	Itojin Securities Co., Ltd.	Kyosetsu Securities Co., Ltd.
Kyokuto Securities Co., Ltd.	The Shinyei Ishino Securities Company, Limited	The Tachibana Securities Co., Ltd.
Hiraoka Securities Co., Ltd.	Yamamaru Securities Co., Ltd.	Ryoko Securities Co., Ltd.

Amro International Limited	Banque Indosuez	Banque Nationale de Paris	Banque Paribas
Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations	County Bank Limited	Crédit Commercial de France	Crédit Lyonnais
Crédit Suisse First Boston Limited	Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft	Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft	
Generale Bank	Manufacturers Hanover Limited	Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited	
Morgan Guaranty Ltd	Société Générale	Swiss Bank Corporation International Limited	

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

(A Canadian Chartered Bank)

U.S. \$300,000,000

Floating Rate Debenture Notes Due 2084

Notice is hereby given that for the initial six months interest period from July 24, 1985 to January 24, 1986 the Debenture Notes will carry an interest rate of 8 1/4% per annum. The interest payable on the relevant interest payment date, January 24, 1986 against Coupon No. 1 will be U.S.\$440.83 and U.S.\$11,020.75 respectively for Debenture Notes in denominations of U.S.\$10,000 and U.S.\$250,000.

By: The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., London, Agent Bank

July 25, 1985



Granville & Co. Limited

Member of The National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers
8 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8DT Telephone 01-621 1212

Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Gross Yield	P/E	Fully
148	122	Ass. Brit. Ind. Ord.	135	-	6.8	4.8	7.5
151	125	Ass. Brit. Ind. CILs	138	-	6.8	4.8	7.5
77	44	Airprimg Group	44	-	6.4	14.8	7.3
42	26	Armstrong and Rhodes	26	-	2.8	8.1	4.5
108	108	Barrick Hill	108	-	10.0	2.6	20.0
64	42	Bray Technologies	62	-	3.9	6.3	7.8
201	160	CCI Ordinary	160	-	12.0	7.5	3.9
152	105	CCL Tropic Conv. Pmt.	105	-	15.7	14.9	-
130	10	Carborundum Ord.	130	-	4.9	3.8	6.4
90	83	Carborundum 7.5pc P.	90	-	10.7	11.9	4.7
3	48	Debonair Services	48	-	8.5	12.3	4.7
467	182	Frank Hovell	467	-	11.4	3.3	15.4
385	170	Frank Hovell Fr.Ord.	385	-	1.9	3.3	15.4
32	28	Frederick Perrier	28	-	12.9	13.7	-
67	33	George Blair	67	-	-	-	4.5
90	20	Granville Castings	90	-	7.7	13.5	5.5
177	177	His Group	180	-	15.0	8.3	13.8
124	101	Jackson Group	105	-	5.5	5.2	7.0
285	213	James Burrough	228	-	4.3	1.3	18.5
94	83	John Howard and Co.	88	-	15.0	16.0	-
95	71	John Howard and Co.	88	-	5.0	5.7	7.0
225	100	Linguaphone Ord.	214	-	6.9	1.2	25.8
100	52	Linguaphone 10.5pc P.	54	-	5.0	7.8	-
950	300	Minihouse Holding NV	690	-	6.9	1.2	25.8
120	31	Robert Jenkins	31	-	5.0	7.8	-
92	61	Torrey and Carlisle	75	-	5.0	6.7	3.8
444	325	Trevian Holdings	325	-	4.3	1.3	18.5
32	17	Unitech Holdings	32	-	2.1	6.6	8.7
105	81	Walter Alexander	105	-	7.5	7.1	7.9
247	218	W. S. Yates	218	-	17.4	8.0	6.2

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Years	Effective July 24	Non-quota loans A* repaid at maturity	Non-quota loans A* repaid at maturity
1	11	11	11
Over 1, up to 2	11	11	11
Over 2, up to 3	11	11	11
Over 3, up to 4	11	11	11
Over 4, up to 5	11	11	11
Over 5, up to 6	11	11	11
Over 6, up to 7	11	11	11
Over 7, up to 8	11	11	11
Over 8, up to 9	11	11	11
Over 9, up to 10	11	11	11
Over 10, up to 15	11	11	11
Over 15, up to 25	11	11	11
Over 25	11	11	11

* Non-quota loans are 1 per cent higher in each case than non-quota loans A. * Equal instalments of principal. * Repayment by half-yearly annuity (fixed equal half-yearly payments to include principal and interest). * With half-yearly payments of interest only.

UK COMPANY NEWS

Valor in agreed offer for Breville Europe

BY DAVID GOODHART

Valor, the heating and cooking appliances group, has made an agreed offer for Breville Europe the sandwich toaster maker. The terms of the acquisition of Breville's 16.6m issued ordinary shares are 17 Valor ordinary shares for every 100 Breville ordinary, with an alternative cash offer.

The offer values each Breville share at 28.73p and places a total value of about 24.76m on the company. The cash alternative is based on 165p per Valor share, equivalent to 28.06p per Breville share.

But Mr Michael Montague, the chairman of Valor, and of the National Consumer Council, said that the total cost which his company would be only about

£330,000. "We will be acquiring 24.76m in net realisable assets and at least £2.5m in cash," he said.

Valor will also pick up the brand leader in the sandwich toaster sector which now claims about 40 per cent of the UK market.

However Breville's disappointing performance since it joined the UKM in 1982 is a consequence of the sharp decline in the market for sandwich toasters which hit a peak of 2m in 1982 and now stands at about 500,000 a year. In the year to June 1984 the company incurred a loss of £411,000.

Valor has placed 2.8m shares in the market—subject to shareholder approval—which repre-

sents a 10.5 per cent enlargement of its existing share capital. The new Valor ordinary will not qualify for the proposed final dividend of 3.385p in respect of the year ended March 1985. Valor profits for the year ended March 31 rose 46 per cent to £5.7m on turnover of £88.4m.

The Breville acquisition is consistent with Valor's interest in brand names. "We think the public trusts brand names," said Mr Montague. He said that a good signal of confidence in the deal was the fact that Hoare Govett have agreed to underwrite the unusually low discount of 5.8 per cent.

Valor's share price fell 10p on the day to close at 188p and Breville's rose 9p to close at 28p.

Bespak up at £2.3m after poor second half

AS FORECAST at the interim stage second half profits of Bespak, aerosol valve manufacturer, were less than in the first six months, and, at £888,000 first six months, and at £1,066m achieved in the second half of last year.

Nevertheless, for the 53 weeks to May 3 1985 group pre-tax profits edged ahead to £2.27m, against £2.11m previously—in line with the March forecast of at least £2.1m—on turnover up from £10.25m to £12.67m.

The directors are recommending the 2.5p (2.25p) final dividend as stated at the time of the rights issue, in March, bringing the total to 4.25p (3.75p). Stated net earnings per 10p share have risen from an adjusted 12.3p to 17p.

The current half of 1985-86 will compare unfavourably with the comparable period, which was exceptionally good, with profits of £1.53m. This was largely due to the high level of Glaxo business, which fell off in the second half.

The directors say, however, that too much should not be read into the first half results, since the group's detailed projections, supported by progress to date, indicate that the year as a whole will show a reasonable increase in sales and taxable profits. In these projections no dramatic increase in Glaxo's requirements during the period has been assumed.

Interest charges for 1984-85 amounted to £768,000 (£345,000), over short-term bank loans and overdrafts of £61,000 (£17,000), other short-term loans £118,000 (£85,000), and long-term bank loans of £156,000 (£153,000). Industrial revenue bond interest took £336,000 (£120,000).

comment: The City seems reluctant to lose faith in Bespak. The over-dependence on Glaxo, plain to see ever since the company was floated in 1982, has not deterred investors from buying the shares at fancy multiples. And even after the fall in prices over the past year, when the effects of a cutback in Glaxo orders became apparent, the shares, down 2p to 235p, trade on a multiple of 14 times historic earnings.

Clearly, the stock market is taking considerable store by the company's prospects of recovery in the second half of the current year. And it is adding a good premium for Bespak's opportunities to exploit its new products, particularly catheter valves. At the root of this confidence lies the fact that Bespak is managing to diversify its customer list in fields where it has a strong technological edge on the competition.

OSPREY COMMUNICATIONS has achieved pre-tax profits of £200,890 in the year to March 31 1985, being its first year as a Stock-Exchange-listed company. The deduction of £15,388 amortisation of goodwill, turnover amounted to £2.2m. The final dividend of 0.75p brings the total to 1.25p, against 1p forecast at the time of flotation. Net earnings were 3.25p.

By Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, London Agent Bank

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UK COMPANY NEWS

Thos. Jourdan improves and plans stronger base

FOR THE fifth successive year Thomas Jourdan has increased both its profits and earnings per share at the interim stage.

Furthermore the directors have plans under consideration which will strengthen the group and create a strong base for continued expansion.

For the six months to June 29 1985 the group improved its turnover from £3.56m to £4.58m and saw its profits at the pre-tax level rise by £88,000 to £412,000, an increase of 31 per cent.

The second half has started well with an increase in outstanding orders over this time last year—the group manufac-

tures trouser presses, nursery products, fireplace surrounds and also holds "Mary Quant" royalty contracts.

Partly to reduce disparity the directors are lifting the interim dividend from 1.75p to 2.1p net per 10p share—the total distribution will depend on the outcome for the year as a whole.

For the 1984 year the group paid a final of 4.50p from record pre-tax profits of £536,573.

First-half earnings improved by 38 per cent, from 3.59p to 4.95p per share.

Mr Archie McNair, the chairman, tells shareholders that during the first half all the

trading subsidiaries were profitable and that Squires (Copper), acquired in August last year, has settled into the group and has more than proved its worth.

There was also an increase in gross royalties and in the profits from that source.

He points out that over the past five year sales, profits and earnings per share have risen significantly and adds that the directors are continuously planning expansion both of existing trading companies and by acquisition—pre-tax profits for the first half of 1985 totalled £48,000 and earnings amounted to 0.63p.

RMC sells stake in Hong Kong associate

RMC Group, the manufacturer of ready mixed concrete, has sold its 50 per cent stake in its Hong Kong associate to Hutchison Whampoa, the holder of the other 50 per cent, for HK \$53.7m (£8m) in cash. RMC has also been repaid loans of £2.1m.

The stake in Ready Mixed Concrete (HK) is being acquired by two Hutchison subsidiaries, Anderson Asia Concrete and Anderson Asia Holdings.

The Hong Kong concrete market has become highly competitive, with margins squeezed and sales falling, following the bursting of the local property boom.

RMC said yesterday that the nature of the market and the location of raw material resources made it appropriate for the Hong Kong company to be wholly controlled by a group which had interests predominantly related to the territory.

RMC will invest the proceeds in group activities in the UK and elsewhere.

Bennett & Fountain on target

Bennett & Fountain, formerly Rubber Estates of Ceylon, has reported profits for the year to the end of March 1985 in line with the forecast made when it came to the Unlisted Securities Market in January this year.

On turnover of £8.56m, trading profit was £763,000, compared with the forecast of not less than £750,000.

No comparative figures are given because of the change in the company's operations. Rubber Estates owned plantations in Sri Lanka until they were nationalised in 1975 and this year in a reverse takeover it bought Bennett & Fountain, the electrical retailer and wholesaler based in Beckenham, Kent.

No dividend will be paid because of the costs of the acquisition and the fact that three-quarters of the profit earned in the period under review was pre-acquisition.

Mr Jack Pomper, chairman, says that 1984-85 was an important period for the group and progress is anticipated in both the retail and wholesale divisions. The aim is to grow both organically and by acquisition.

The present year has started satisfactorily in a difficult market and Mr Pomper says that the full year is looked forward to with confidence.

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INCOME STATEMENT

	Year ended 30.6.85	Year ended 30.6.84
Income from investments	2,800	2,083
Interest received	263	221
Share of mining profits	308	74
Sundry revenue	22	6
Cost of administration	3,399	2,384
Net normal income	152	106
Provision for possible losses on realisation of investments less net profit on sale of investments	47	(48)
Profit before tax	3,200	2,326
Tax	109	139
Profit after tax	3,092	2,187
Dividends	2,722	1,986
Retained profit at beginning of year	370	191
Retained profit at end of year	6,165	5,974
Earnings—cents per share	85.2	60.0
Dividends—cents per share		
—Interim	20.0	17.5
—Final	55.0	37.5
	75.0	55.0

BALANCE SHEET

	Year ended 30.6.85	Year ended 30.6.84
Net Assets	30,684	30,684
Listed investments	1,000	1,000
Unlisted investment, mineral and participation rights and cost of exploration	7,417	7,134
Loan portion of tax	1,099	443
Net current assets (liabilities)	8,516	7,577
Current assets	2,393	2,007
Less: Current liabilities	2,559	1,607
	8,350	7,980
Financed by		
Issued share capital	1,815	1,815
Distributable reserve	6,535	6,165
	8,350	7,980
Listed investments—market value	38,325	38,209
Unlisted investment—directors' valuation	3,301	1,585
	42,626	39,794
Book value	5,016	7,577
Appreciation	34,610	32,197
Number of ordinary shares in issue at end of period (000's)	3,630	3,630
Net asset value (including unlisted investment at directors' valuation and mineral rights at book value)—cents per share	1,183	1,107

DIVIDEND NO. 26

A final dividend of 55.0 cents per share (1984 : 37.5c) has been declared for the year ended 30 June 1985.

Last date for registration 9 August 1985

Registers close (dates inclusive) from 10 August 1985 to 16 August 1985

Currency conversion date (for payments from London) 19 August 1985

Date of payment 30 August 1985

The dividend is payable subject to the customary conditions which may be inspected at or obtained from the company's Johannesburg office or from the office of the London secretaries (Barnato Brothers Limited, 99 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XE).

By order of the board
JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED,
Secretaries
per: D. A. FREEMANTLE

Head Office and Registered Office
Consolidated Building, Corner Fox and Harrison Streets,
Johannesburg 2001

Postal address
P.O. Box 590,
Johannesburg 2000.

24 July 1985

W. A. Tyzack buys Rhodes' knife business

W. A. Tyzack has acquired the machine knife business of Henry Rhodes, and at the same time has sold Rhodes' specialised spring operations to Chapman Springs. The total consideration payable for Rhodes is £850,000, of which £625,000 is payable in cash with the balance in Tyzack ordinary shares.

The cash sum of £803,200, plus VAT, was received as part consideration by Tyzack on completion of the sale to Chapman Springs. An estimated balance of £76,000 plus VAT will be received on September 30, when a valuation of stock and work in progress has been finalised.

Kenyon Securities ahead after year of expansion

Kenyon Securities, supplier of funeral and ancillary services, edged ahead from £413,000 to £544,000 pre-tax for the year to end-March 1985, after making a lower £247,000 against £283,000 in the second half.

Turnover improved from £3.69m to £4.64m, and the directors report a continuation in the growth of the company's business. They are holding the dividend payment at 9.375p for the year with a same again 6.25p final. Stated net earnings are lower at 16.5p (16.8p) on a weighted average basis.

The group completed a number of acquisitions during the year and following the year-end made

the more substantial acquisition of Hambrook and Johns, increasing the geographical areas covered by the group's services. The benefits arising from these acquisitions only marginally contributed to the year under review, but will result in a marked increase in group trading during the current year, the directors state.

For 1984-85 tax took a lower £190,000 (£203,000). There was an extraordinary credit this time of £45,000 being the profit on the sale of freehold property, and an extraordinary debit last time of £86,000 for deferred tax. The group's shares are traded on the USM.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

CANADIAN MARCONI electronics producer controlled by General Electric Company of the UK, sees lower shipments and earnings in the fiscal year ending next March 31 because its order book was down to £21m at March 31 last from £350m a year earlier.

ROCK and Williams Holdings have completed the sale of properties used for the business of Longford Tools and Distributions.

JUMER has acquired 1.71m shares in London Enterprises and now holds 1.64m (44.5 per cent).

FINE ART Developments has acquired Club Centre of Leeds for £490,000 in cash and the allotment of 500,000 ordinary shares. Club Centre's business is selling Christmas and birthday

cards on sale or return by mail order to football clubs, a wide variety of other clubs and schools.

BP CHEMICALS has received acceptances from holders of 5.1m ordinary shares in Mebon, representing 94.38 per cent of the issued share capital, and from all the holders of the 200,000 preference shares. The offer, which is 120p in cash for each Mebon share, is now unconditional and will remain open until further notice. In due course BP Chemicals will compulsorily acquire any outstanding Mebon ordinary shares.

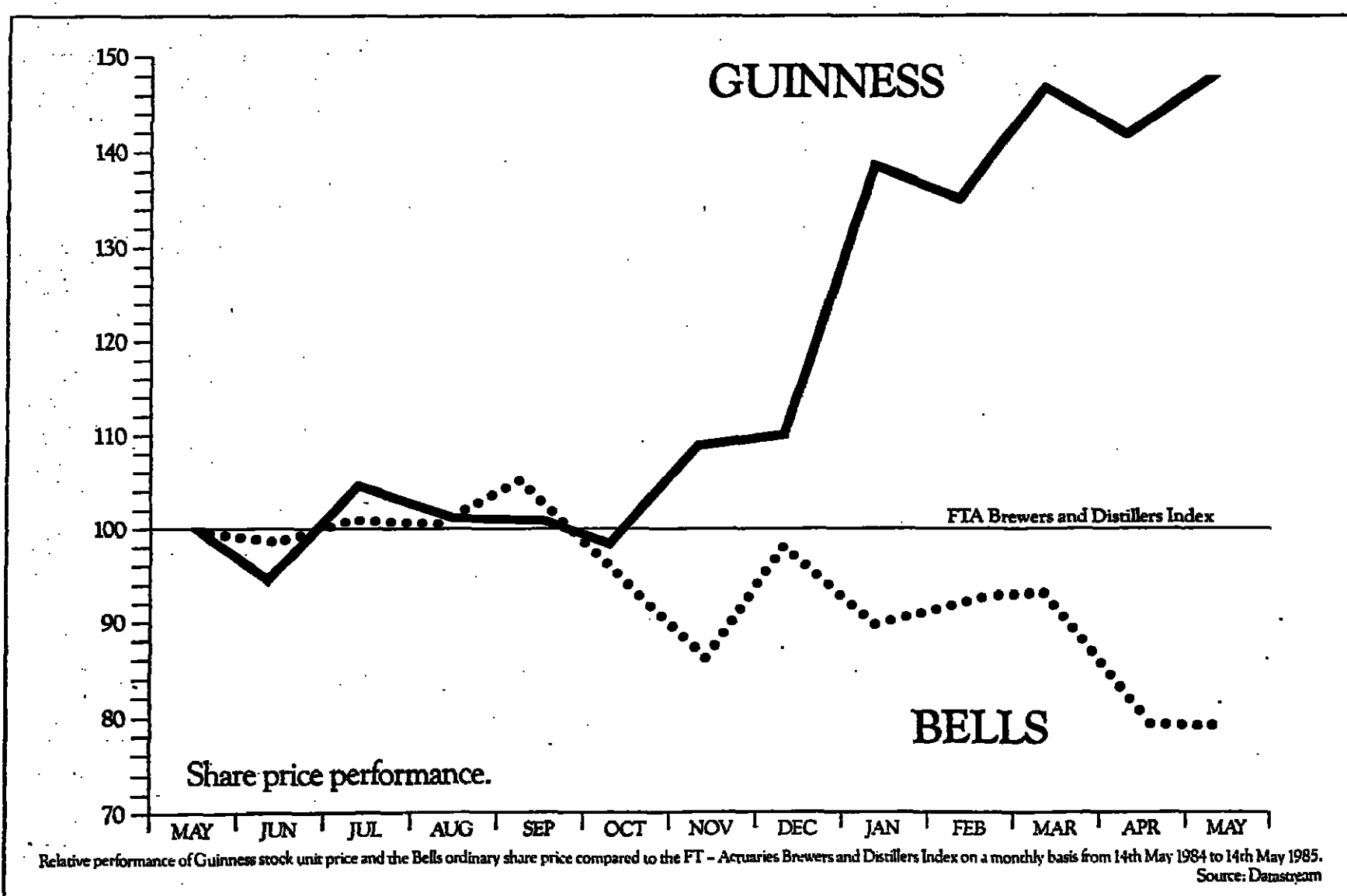
INDEPENDENT INVESTMENT, the investment trust subsidiary of Atlantic Asset Trust, earned higher net profits of £206,000, against £271,000, in the year to end-June 1985. Net asset value was 314.8p at the end of the

year, compared with 278p a year previous. Earnings per share were 0.90p (0.89p) and the single final dividend is unchanged at 0.5p.

WHITWORTH'S FOOD GROUP, fruit and vegetable distribution company, has acquired the outstanding 56 per cent of Peter C. Cocks (Potatoes) of Scunthorpe and Darlington, prepacker, distributor and merchant of potatoes.

REA's offer for Applied Botany has been accepted by holders of 29.27m (88.5 per cent) of the ordinary shares and 6.12m (99.4 per cent) of the deferred shares. As a result Rea controls 90.6 per cent of the ordinary shares and 99.4 per cent of the deferred shares. The offer has been declared unconditional for the ordinary and deferred shares and will remain open for acceptance until further notice.

WHO HAS THE BETTER SENSE OF DIRECTION?



Bells has lost its way. Guinness is good for Bells.

Since 1980 Bells' share of the UK Scotch Whisky market has declined by 20%.

Overseas, Bells has also failed to achieve its promised inroads into the crucial US market.

By contrast, the Guinness Group has not only revitalised its core brewing business and established a second major profit source, Retailing, it has also developed a strategy of "Growth for Tomorrow" by investment in Healthcare and Publishing.

Bells' predicament and Guinness' revitalisation have both been recognised by the Stock Market as the graph, for May 1984 to May 1985, so vividly demonstrates.

Guinness' record justifies the claim that it can steer Bells in the right direction. The market confidence in the considerable abilities of the Guinness management team should further enhance Bells' shareholders' confidence.

On 14th May 1985, before rumours of the Guinness bid, Bells' shares languished at 143p.

Bells' shareholders are not only being offered a substantial premium over this price, they are being offered shares in an exciting, enlarged Guinness Group.

The growth prospects of this Group can only lead Bells' shareholders in one direction.

Towards accepting the very full offers made by Guinness.

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MANAGEMENT: Marketing and Advertising

EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER LORENZ

Food retailing

Catering for changing tastes

David Churchill talks to Tesco's new chairman

IN 1977 Ian MacLaurin initiated Britain's first supermarket price war. Tomorrow he takes over as chairman of Tesco—the firm forecast that the days of price wars among hungry British food retailers are over.

"There will never be another price war of the sort we saw in the late 1970s," he asserts confidently. "Although price is an important part of the trading equation, it is no longer the most significant factor in grocery retailing."

Tesco's own market research—supported by other surveys of shoppers' buying habits—shows that consumers are looking for factors other than price when deciding where to shop. They look for a total package—such as convenience, fresh foods, range of merchandise, car parking, store layout, and good value," believes MacLaurin. "I don't think most people scan the newspaper ads every day looking for the cheapest prices any more."

MacLaurin points out that Tesco and its major rivals, Asda and J. Sainsbury "have all got over in our various ways the concept of good value which are part of our corporate marketing strategies—no body needs to rock the boat and start a new price war."

Instead, the fiercest competition over the next decade between the major supermarket chains will be over acquiring new superstore sites. Tesco has just opened its 100th UK superstore—at Brent Park in North London—and has plans for many more over the next ten years. "By the end of this decade some 60 per cent of the population will shop in a superstore," predicts MacLaurin.

It is perhaps fitting that Tesco's latest superstore should be at Brent Park since this is where MacLaurin, 48, first started working for Tesco almost 25 years ago. Then, the local store was only 200 sq ft in size, compared with the 65,000 sq ft of selling space in the new store.

MacLaurin has worked his way steadily up the company, which was started after the first world war by Sir Jack Cohen, whose famous trading philosophy was "pile 'em high,

sell 'em cheap!" MacLaurin was made managing director in 1973 and for the past 18 months he has been deputy chairman. Tomorrow he takes over from Sir Leslie Porter—Sir Jack Cohen's son-in-law—as the first non-family chairman of Tesco.

MacLaurin has been the key figure in Tesco's rejuvenated financial performance in recent years after a sticky patch in the early 1980s. The success of the price war started by MacLaurin in 1977 only served to expose Tesco's managerial weaknesses—it simply could not keep up with the extra volume of business generated by its marketing success. Pre-tax profits in 1979 of £37.7m slumped to £35.6m by 1981. However, in the financial year just ended, Tesco reported pre-tax profits of £81.3m on sales of £3bn.

Adamant

This has been achieved by switching Tesco's managerial system from a decentralised approach—where individual store managers had considerable freedom—to a much tighter operation controlled from head office.

At the same time Tesco has shut down nearly 400 small stores and concentrated on its superstore development programme. But MacLaurin has also varied this marketing strategy by launching a limited range of products in a chain called "Victor Value" to capture some of the high street trade lost by having fewer small Tesco stores.

MacLaurin, however, remains adamant that the High Street will survive. "All this talk of the High Street dying is a lot of nonsense," he says. "There are plenty of retailers that will prosper in the High Street by offering good value and reaching out to particular groups of customers," he insists.

Tesco's problem is that its customers prefer the ease of large stores and adequate car parking—something that is in short supply in many High Streets. "Where there is the room for a good-sized store and car parking, then we will consider opening new High



Ian MacLaurin: "People don't look for the cheapest prices any more."

Street stores," he confirms. He believes that "retailing is now on a very different level from that of a decade ago, with greater sophistication and more professional management." Yet he also maintains that the essence of retailing is still the traditional skills "of being fast on your feet and exploiting the opportunities that are there for you."

MacLaurin is very aware of changing consumer shopping patterns and therefore believes that Tesco should seek to take advantage of the trend towards shorter working hours and shoppers' with more leisure time. "They will want stores—similar to many in the U.S.—that are attractive centres in their own right, where they can park the car, have lunch, use a bank, and browse round a number of departments."

Superstores will provide the opportunity for this type of shopping with one or two major retailers linking together to form mini-shopping centres on the edge of towns. Tesco has already forged a link with Marks & Spencer to develop such large store sites close to major towns. Other retail multiples—such as the Burton Group of fashion chains—could also join up with some Tesco developments.

Even after almost a quarter of a century with Tesco, MacLaurin is still enthusiastic about developing the company over the next decade or so. "For me, retailing is like a drug—it's always been a special excitement," he says. "I don't think I'll ever lose it."

The only other possible career that interested MacLaurin was as a professional sportsman—he played as an amateur footballer at Chelsea in the same team as Jimmy Greaves. "But I felt that retailing had more to offer in the long term," he admits.

Marketing concepts

Stating the case for better research

CHRISTOPHER PARKES

THE FOUNDATION underpinning the application and understanding of marketing in Britain is a thing of anecdotes and fragments, according to Peter Doyle, Professor of Marketing at Warwick University.

If marketing is important to the regeneration of industrial competitiveness, he argues, then a considerable body of research still needs to be undertaken on the scale and extent of the problems.

In his contribution to the inaugural issue of the Journal of Marketing Management—described by its editor as a bridge between weekly magazines and the esoteric treatment found in academic journals—Doyle offers a comprehensive curriculum. Just the job, possibly, for his own department. And potentially a rich seam for the new publication to mine in the future.

The professor poses a series of pertinent questions, some of which the uninitiated may consider should have been asked and answered long ago: Are British companies less marketing-oriented than their competitors?

"While there is much anecdotal evidence, there has been no comprehensive study of this issue," he claims. A broad study would define the components of an effective marketing company and compare various countries, he suggests.

Are marketing-oriented companies more successful? "How significant is marketing to corporate performance? Again there is fragmented evidence... but it has never been brought together effectively in the UK," the professor

accuses. A well-structured study could disentangle the impact of marketing from the other variables affecting corporate performance.

What are the obstacles to companies developing a marketing orientation? Do they include lack of knowledge, poor planning and organisation or poor marketing staff, he asks. And why should these and other factors be more important in the UK than elsewhere.

Once these basic areas have been covered, Doyle says, research could move with some confidence into the area of righting the problems, leading possibly to the development of models for the process of revitalising industries or businesses.

He points to work carried out at Erasmus University in the

Netherlands, based on studies of how four major enterprises had been turned round after a long period of decline. The results are now the basis of a regular study course at a leading Dutch business school.

Hinting that he suspects some of his main questions may have been answered, the professor notes that work at Erasmus and comparable research by the McKinsey consultancy "put renewed emphasis on marketing and organisational culture as determinants of competitive performance."

He concludes: "Given that these two factors appear to be particularly problem areas in Britain, initiating a study of successful revitalisation in this country could offer real practical insights to companies and the Government."

Some of the marketing blunders and failures notched up by

British industry in the past—and attempts to explain them—are recorded in a rumbustious contribution from Stephen King, director of research and planning at J. Walter Thompson, the advertising agency.

He recounts, for example, the response of the Midlands bus company to customers' complaints of drivers speeding by stops with a wave and a smile: "It is impossible for the drivers to keep to their timetables if they have to stop for passengers."

"Consumers come second" philosophy is one commonly espoused as companies grow bigger and less responsive, he claims.

From his quarter-century in and around the marketing business, King has distilled his own recipe for success. The essence of what he calls Real Marketing lies in:

- Putting the customer first—not the distribution system.
- Giving satisfaction over a period of time—not just profits this month.
- Using all the company resources—not just those of one department.
- Innovating—not just sticking to formulae.

"Where it is followed, it seems to work. But we have to admit that there are far too many instances where it has never really been tried," he claims.

As to sources of proper guidance for companies seeking to improve their marketing efforts, King appears to be at something of a loss. He complains of scanning certain marketing periodicals for 25 years "with despairing incomprehension, failing entirely to derive any benefit from them at all."

Nor does he seem to have much of an opinion of academic training. "I see people emerging from various institutions with qualifications in marketing, but cannot imagine how some of them are remotely suited to any of the jobs that I know about."

Even the learned company in which he finds himself in this new publication is not spared. "Maybe some of the time spent by some teachers on producing unreadable esoterica would be better used in listening to consumers, watching practical marketing men in action and, if possible, having a go at it themselves."

Journal of Marketing Management. Editor: Professor Michael Baker, Department of Marketing, University of Strathclyde, 177 Cathedral Street, Glasgow G4 0RQ. £30 a year for three issues. £32 for overseas subscribers.

The might of the Methuselah market

SOME effort has clearly gone into avoiding the American term "grey," but many might question whether the UK's senior citizenry will take altogether kindly to being lumped into "The Methuselah Market" by marketing lecturers Caroline Tynan and Jennifer Drayton.

Still, their study of the neglected marketing opportunities offered by the 10.5 per cent of the British population aged between 60 and 70, offers some useful indicators.

First, the Methuselahs are likely to be earning their maximum income in the five years leading up to retirement. They tend also to have

a reservoir of accumulated savings and assets. They are not hardened with long term debt such as a mortgage, and most are free of the financial ties of parenthood.

Research has also pinpointed several areas which companies could usefully exploit, including an untapped market for small, comfortable, easily-maintained retirement properties.

Holidays also figure strongly in the Methuselah budget, and while the study produced no evidence of a market for consumer durables, it suggests there is a significant market for a "last car" for retirement. "Reliability, durability and buy-

ing British were frequently expressed objectives."

Attempting to explain why this growing sector of the population has been ignored, our researchers once again come up against the red-face factor. In proper academic fashion, the credit and the blame are nicely shifted.

"The main reasons postulated for this neglect fall into three categories... first their supposed lack of buying power, the second involves the stereotyping of the old as powerless (Gelb 1977), ugly (Klippel 1974), dowdy or uninspiring (London 1976) in conjunction with an obsession on the part of marketers with the young (Bartos 1980)."

Marketing abstracts

Advertisers and decision-makers in production elimination. G. J. Avionitis in *Industrial Marketing Management* (U.S.), February 1985 (10 pages).

Reports on how the decision to eliminate products is taken in engineering companies; examines who the main participants are in the elimination process and discovers top management and marketing to play significant roles in most

companies; management (in committee form) are the decision-makers, and marketing are the principal advisors. Marketing and the Internal Auditor. V. Murray in *Internal Auditing* (UK), March 1985 (6 pages).

Taking the general stand that internal auditing is concerned with the evaluation of operational cost-effectiveness in an organization, examines how internal audit can contribute to the marketing function in the areas of product suitability, price competitiveness, quality, distribution and after-sales

service. Physical distribution marketing interface responsibility. P. M. Lynagh and R. F. Poist in *International Journal of Physical Distribution and Materials Management* (UK), Vol. 14, No. 6 (13 pages).

Findings that the organisation of physical distribution as a separately-managed department produces conflict, particularly at the marketing interface. Analyses survey results, demonstrating the need for a co-ordinated approach producing joint responsibility leading to a unified marketing/PD

department. Looks at the need for top management support and recommends a programme of education and organisational change backed by improved information systems.

Postal market research. E. W. Whitely in *Journal of the Market Research Society* (UK), January 1985 (9 pages). Describes how Reader's Digest uses postal research to determine levels of interest in new books and purchasing motivations, claiming up to 50 per cent response in many cases; touches

upon the question of non-respondents and examines ways of maximising response by inter alia questionnaire design, covering letters and incentives. Explores the advantages claimed for postal research.

These abstracts are condensed from the abstracting journals published by Anbar Management Publications. Licensed copies of the original articles may be obtained at £3 each (including VAT and p+p; cash with order) from Anbar, PO Box 23, Wembley HA9 8DJ.

TECHNOLOGY

Verbatim's erasable optical disk will revolutionise personal computing, reports Geoffrey Charlsh

New disk brings forty-fold rise in computers' data storage capacity

VERBATIM Corporation, the Californian flexible disk manufacturing company recently acquired by Kodak, is developing a 3.5 inch erasable optical disk system for computers which will increase dramatically their data storage capacity.

The disk will store at least 20,000 typewritten pages (40m characters, or 40 megabytes of data)—40 times the amount a conventional 3.5 inch magnetic oxide floppy disk can store.

Verbatim predicts bulk prices of about \$300 for the drive and \$20 for a disk. These are similar to those of current equipment, but the much greater capacity will completely change the price/performance basis of personal computing.

The company plans to have evaluation units of the disk drive available in the second quarter of 1986 and to be in full production by the end of 1987.

Most of the optical recording systems announced so far are large scale non-erasable systems suitable for bulk, read-only storage of data in large organisations.

The U.S. Library of Congress and G.A. (USA), for example, have systems from Thomson CSE while in the UK, Pergamon recently revealed that it would be using Drexler technology in

an undisclosed publishing application. Ciba Geigy in the UK will be another Drexler user, while Blue Cross insurance group in the U.S. will apply the technology to medical record keeping.

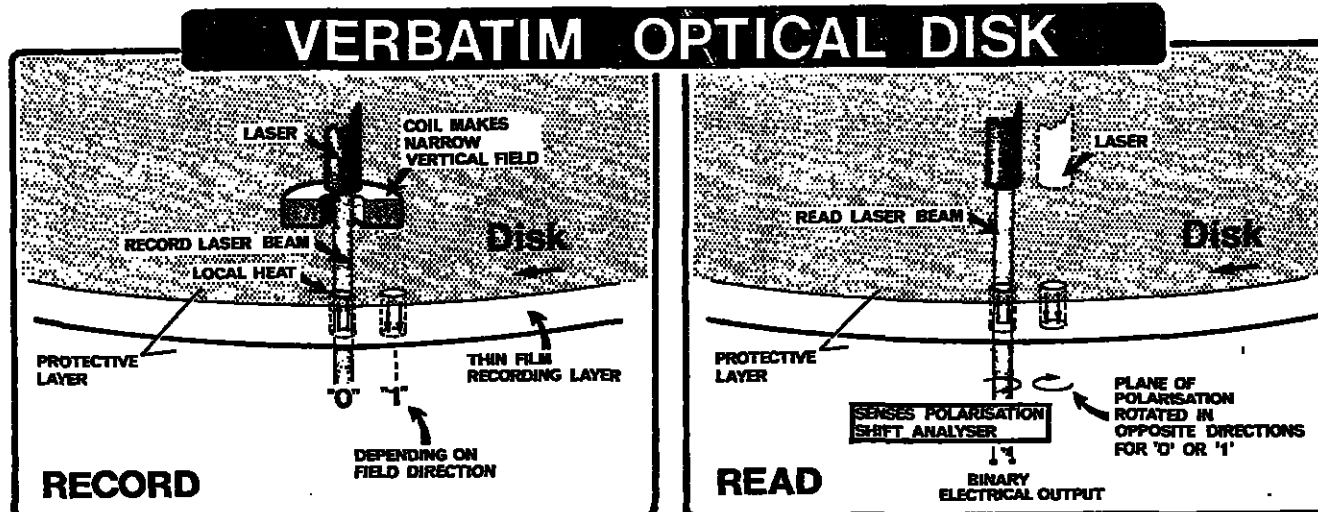
In Germany, Die Zeit and Stern magazine are using the Philips Megadoc system for storing journalists' reference material.

Several European users have moved from microfilm and COM (computer output on microfilm) to optical disks, for ease of access.

Non-erasable optical recording systems use a very small focused laser beam to make microscopic pits on the surface of the disk. The pits represent on-off digital pulses of computer signals—a kind of micro-scope, high speed Morse code. On playback, they are illuminated by another laser and read by a light sensor.

Once made, the marks cannot be erased, although some experts feel that, with the enormous capacity provided for recording (300,000 pages on a 12 inch disk says Philips), it makes sense to write new records and ignore the old.

Although Sony and other companies have developed erasable technology (Sony has



The Verbatim erasable disk uses two different effects for recording and reading.

To record, a narrow laser beam acts at the same time as a magnetic field. The laser heats the thin metallic film, "loosening" the magnetic particles which are then magnetised in an upward or downward direction by the minute field area from the coil, and forming

a large scale system to NKK, the Japanese international telephone authority). Verbatim claims to be the first U.S. company to tackle the small computer systems end of the market.

It is convinced that compact, ultra-high volume storage for personal workstations will form the main market demand in the next decade and puts the 1990 world market at \$1bn. It is developing disk material, disk, and the drive mechanism.

Progress in conventional magnetic recording is becoming increasingly difficult as the number of on-off impressions per inch increases. (The impressions represent bits, or fundamental digital units.)

The distance between playback head and surface has to be reduced as the recording density (bits per inch) is increased, in order to pick up the increasingly small and weak recording satisfactorily. Each doubling of the density halves the head-disk distance so that, at 15,000 bits per inch the clearance is only 0.4 microns (millionth of a metre).

Improvement in the number of tracks per inch (measured across a radius) is also at its limits in ordinary magnetic recording. Even with precision track following systems, 1,000 tracks per inch is likely to be the limit, says Verbatim.

By contrast, 15,000 tracks per inch are in use in optically

erasable digital "0" or "1" on cooling.

On playback, a laser beam of plane polarised light, on passing through either a "0" or "1" in the film, suffers a rotation of polarisation either clockwise or anti-clockwise.

The light passes to an analyser which senses the direction of the shift and produces an electrical output of "0" or "1".

recorded video disks that sell for only \$500.

The team at Verbatim, led by Dr Geoffrey Bate, senior vice president for engineering, has developed a recording technique that involves thermal, magnetic and optical phenomena.

Recording takes place thermomagnetically by combining a magnetic field and a focused laser beam which heats the surface material locally to reverse the direction of magnetisation.

The exact composition of the surface film is not revealed, but the company describes it as an "optimum composition of terbium (a rare earth metal), iron and cobalt."

The data is stored in the form

of regions of opposite magnetisation in the film. The direction of magnetisation is perpendicular, rather than in the plane of the film. This means that the tiny magnetic rod elements are stacked rather like corn in a cob, allowing more to be accommodated than in conventional magnetic recording, where they lie flat.

Reading is accomplished using the magneto-optical effect. Polarised light is passed through the very thin recording film and its plane of polarisation is rotated clockwise or anti-clockwise according to the direction of magnetisation. That is, according to whether a digital "0" or "1" has been recorded.

EDITED BY ALAN CANE

Cool move helps to preserve living tissue

A RESEARCH technique for preserving living cells by cooling without freezing has been made commercially available by Pafra, a company in Basildon, Essex, better known for its synthetic adhesives and adhesive applicator.

The technique is the brainchild of Dr Felix Franks, senior research fellow in biophysics at Cambridge University. He calls it "undercooling" and it is said to confer the advantage of low temperature—which is known to preserve living tissue virtually in a state of suspended animation—without forming ice crystals which damage living tissue.

According to Pafra, Dr Franks' technique can be applied by biotechnology companies anxious to store valuable micro-organisms, animal and tissue banks and pharmaceutical and chemical companies.

Pafra will carry out the undercooling process either as a complete service including storage of the preserved tissue or it will license companies to use Dr Franks' process.

Standard cold preservation techniques involve immersion in liquid nitrogen which certainly suspends the living processes in the cells but which also almost certainly destroys them through the formation of ice crystals.

Undercooling eliminates freezing altogether. The living cells are first dispersed in a small amount of an inert oil together with a small amount of growth medium to maintain their viability.

They are then mixed in a laboratory blender for a few minutes before being transferred to plastic tubes for storage in a freezer where the oil sets to a jelly.

The gels can be returned to room temperatures without special precautions. With the Franks' method, the company says, yeast cells can be undercooled to below minus 20 deg C for at least 16 weeks with no loss of viability. Tissues from pea and potato shoot tips to human red blood cells have been undercooled successfully.

The technique sounds simple, but Mr M. M. Kochmann, managing director of Pafra, says successful use of the process involves careful biological assessment of the tissue.

ALAN CANE

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New modem for IBM PCs

LEADING DATA communications specialists Bact-Milgo of Hook, Hampshire, has developed a simple circuit board that will allow users of the IBM personal computer to communicate over British Telecom networks.

This modem (modulator/demodulator) is claimed to be the only one available that will transmit data through a private automatic branch exchange (PABX) as well as over a direct telephone line. It automatically selects tone or pulse dialling as required and is fully approved by BT.

Fitted by the user in a few minutes, this "personal modem" will give access to Freestel, the BT-Gold electronic mail service, to other data bases, to a mainframe computer. It will communicate with other IBM PCs (and compatible machines) and allows incoming material to be edited before storage on disk or paper.

Priced at £450, including the software, the personal modem replaces the asynchronous communications card of the videotext card within the PC, greatly extending its abilities.

Forecasting for casting
THE LOS ALAMOS National Laboratory has developed a computer program which simulates the way molten metal will cast before it is poured into the mould.

The program, called CAS, is said to be unique because it simulates real operating furnace and casting systems rather than idealised moulding conditions.

Scientists at Los Alamos have been able to predict, for the first time, defects in a component by modelling its casting.

The laboratory's supercomputer was needed to run the program, so complex were the materials problems.

DOCUMENTS THAT come through the mail—gas and electricity bills, rates demands, bank statements, subscription documents—are often produced on a computer printer, separated, trimmed, folded and put into an envelope, either by hand or machine. It all costs money.

Moore Paragon, the London business forms and equipment maker, has developed a system called Speedisec that does away with the envelope altogether, without prejudicing the security of the contents.

In a rapid, continuous operation, Speedisec produces a complete mailable item using a specially designed web of forms incorporating translucent windows and heat-sealed adhesive edges.

Machinery is supplied which, after printing on the customer's computer printer, folds the document to bring the heat seal edges together to form an "envelope" (triple off the paper's tractor holes, separates the web into separate "letters" and then

heat seals them ready for mailing.

Window, fold and printing are such that in the final item, the name and address of the recipient are clearly visible.

Although such "self-mail" systems are already on the market, they involve making carbon impressions with an impact printer through the outer of the sealed item for security reasons (for example, where personal payments are involved). This avoids having confidential information visible to operators for any

length of time.

Speedisec allows original printing, which is clearer and less alterable, using a non-impact printer if desired.

Moore Paragon offers two variants of Speedisec, single part and two part. The single part system uses only one web of standard printed forms which are passed through the printer for the variable data (name, address, payment figure, etc.) to be added. Subsequent machinery then immediately folds the web, transmits it and bursts the trans-

verse perforation to give separate "letters."

Using sufficiently stiff paper, the rear side of the single fold document can incorporate a cheque, allowing organisations to make payments as well as demand them.

The conventional separate document inside an envelope can also be produced by the Speedisec two-part system. Here, two separate webs are used. One, which does not pass through the printer, has heat sealing edges and trans-

lucent windows.

All the data is printed on part two. The two parts are immediately brought together, detached from their webs, trimmed, folded and sealed, with the one inside the other.

The company says that the heat-sealing edges are not affected when the documents are printed by processes that themselves use heat to fuse the print, such as laser printers.

Moore Paragon is at 75 Southwark Street, SE1 (01-528-9022).

BUSINESS LAW

Why English traders make timid litigants

BY CELIA HAMPTON

THE ENGLISH distaste for U.S. and-trust law was highlighted last Wednesday during the American Bar Association Convention. "An instrument of torture," was one verdict, "the deepest source of legal conflict across the Atlantic" another.

The distaste focuses on the individual litigant's capacity to use the law to exert what appears to be an arbitrary and excessive compensation—think of a number and treble it. The anti-trust activities of the Department of Justice may lead to disappointment or retraction of a deal, but public regulation is a commonplace on the international commercial scene and does not provoke resentment or indignation in the peculiar way that a private antitrust suit does.

It would clearly be unpopular to allow punitive damages for anti-competitive conduct, but why do American firms dive in from the high board while we barely dare to wet our toes?

This was one of the interesting aspects of the UK's policy on business competition raised by Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, when he addressed the Law Society's commerce and industry group earlier this month. One of the answers is the source of law.

There is, of course, the common law of unfair trading (passing off, slander of goods, some conspiracies) which is much more limited in scope than modern competition policy. Yet loss may be suffered by a company from less specific anti-competitive practices—conduct which "has or is intended to have the effect of restricting, distorting or preventing competition."

Post-war legislation, however, gives little scope for private litigation under the Fair Trading Act 1973 and the Competition Act 1980, the law itself takes a subsidiary role to economics. Only the administrative authorities are given power to act and their discretion is so wide that there is no tangible legal duty that an individual could sue on.

The only case in which the

courts have apparently considered the legislation involved merger control and they gave the administrative authorities leave even to disagree among themselves. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission recommended by a 4-2 majority that a particular takeover would be against the public interest. The Secretary of State, with the support of the Director-General, decided to allow the takeover because they took the view that the public interest had not been proven. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court ruled that the Minister had an unfettered discretion in the matter. The law is essentially benign to takeovers and the only legal consideration against them is operation against the public interest—largely an economic judgment.

So there is no remedy here against hostile takeover bids. Nor would there be for another

The law is benign to takeovers and the only legal bar to them is operation against the public interest—an economic judgment

undeniably anti-competitive practice—predatory pricing. Sir Gordon quoted a good example arising from a "privatisation." A long-distance coach company, threatened by competition from a newcomer, advertised free travel to its passengers for an indefinite period. After a complaint from a competitor, Sir Gordon intervened informally and got the coach company to charge fares again. However, the competitor would have had no enforceable right to enter the market either at common law or under legislation.

Another area which is largely policed by the authorities and left unattended by private actions is the Restrictive Practices Court. The Act of 1976 gives the Director-General, who is in charge of registering restrictive agreements, the sole power to apply to the court in general. However, an avenue of private litigation arises under section 35 of the Act. An agreement which has not been registered when it should gives any person

who may be affected by it the right to sue for breach of the duty to register. What appears to be the only case on this subject was settled just before it went to court. It concerned companies supplying the Post Office with grossly over-priced equipment.

The Resale Prices Act 1964 gave retailers who are refused supplies the right to sue the supplier. The dearth of litigation suggests that the complexity of factual disputes resulting from the supplier's defence of "loss leading" has deterred private litigants here also.

The EEC competition rules seem likely to provide a more tangible right of individual action for restrictive agreements or abuse of a dominant position in the market. The Treaty provisions are embodied in the European Communities Act 1972 and the House of Lords has

acknowledged that damages would be available for a violation of the Treaty. (The actual decision is tantalising because it concerned a preliminary injunction rather than damages and, by treating the case in the English law way as "breach of statutory duty," this raised complex issues.)

Any extension of the individual right of action would seem to be inappropriate, therefore. If the existing, albeit scarce, law is rarely used, there is hardly a case for introducing new remedies.

The secret would seem to lie with the Office of Fair Trading—Sir Gordon and his staff of 330. Companies and lawyers are encouraged to approach the OFT for confidential guidance. On a merger, there is no duty to notify but it is as well to know whether the authorities are likely to oppose it if it goes ahead. On say, a distribution or franchise agreement, the OFT will not only point out where it is itself likely to object but will even offer assistance in the drafting.

* R. V. Secretary of State for Trade, or Attorney General (1983) 2 All ER 770.

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If a potential litigant thinks he has a right of action under the Restrictive Practices Act, his best course would seem to be to report the offending practice to the OFT, let the OFT intervene and then induce the parties to make a handsome settlement with him.

Whether or not use of these functions has stopped many lawsuits in the past, the Director-General would certainly encourage recourse to the OFT in future. It has a terrific cost advantage.

And this surely leads to the basic reason for the divergence between U.S. and UK practice. With a contingency fee system for paying lawyers, and more litigious habits generally, U.S. companies have less to lose and much to gain by a private antitrust suit. In the UK, the cost of an action even in well-trodden areas of the law is great, in time as well as money, but in areas of novelty and uncertainty the threat is immense, with the House of Lords a likely destination after many years delay.

Sir Gordon had an alarming warning affecting the personal freedom of any lawyer, director or manager of a company which has been involved in a registered restrictive agreement. Unless discharged, the terms of an undertaking given to the Restrictive Practices Court remain in force indefinitely. In one case there was a time lag of 18 years.

Breach of the undertaking is a contempt of court. The court takes a strict view and expects a company's system to preserve the memory of the undertaking despite staff changes, etc. According to Sir Gordon, the court would like to see more action being taken against individuals for breach of undertakings, and it has warned darkly that the available penalties are "not exclusively financial."

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INSURANCE, OVERSEAS & MONEY FUNDS

Scottish Life Investments 17 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh 031-225 2211	Scottish Mutual Assurance Society 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Scottish Widows' Group PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH3 9SU 031-435 6000	Standard Life Assurance Co. Ltd. Forth Road, Edinburgh 0703 334411	Teachers' Assurance Company Ltd 12 Charlotte Rd, Glasgow 043-291111	Transatlantic Life Ins. Co. Ltd. 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Trustee Life Assurance Co. Ltd 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	UK Life Assurance Co. Ltd 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Van der Grinten Life Assurance 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Windsor Life Assur. Co. Ltd. 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221
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Arboretum Securities (C.I.) Ltd. 11 South St, London EC3A 3BB 0334 76077	Arise Fund Managers Ltd. PO Box 435, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	B.I.A. Bond Investments AG 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Bank of America International S.A. 35 Boulevard Roy, Luxembourg 0481 26041	Bardays Finance International 100 St Vincent St, Glasgow 041-588 6221	Barings International Group 200, Leadenhall Street, London 0334 76077	Baring International Group 200, Leadenhall Street, London 0334 76077	Baring International Group 200, Leadenhall Street, London 0334 76077	Baring International Group 200, Leadenhall Street, London 0334 76077	Baring International Group 200, Leadenhall Street, London 0334 76077
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Royal Trust International Fd. Mgmt. Ltd. PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	SCITECH S.A. 2 Boulevard Roy, Luxembourg 0481 26041	Serv & Prosper International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141	Shaw & Shaw International PO Box 194, St Helier, Jersey 0534 75141
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OFFSHORE AND OVERSEAS

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COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

EEC commission calls for sugar levy rise

BY IVO DAWNAY IN BRUSSELS

EEC COMMISSIONERS yesterday agreed on controversial new restrictions, to be submitted to ministers for approval, on the sugar and starch industries which will hit producers and processors respectively.

After a lengthy debate on sugar, the 14 Commissioners agreed to increase the production levies on both "A" and "B" grade sugar in a new effort to make the EEC's sugar policy self-financing.

The sugar regime has long been held up by the Commission as an effective example of how the costs of export subsidies can be met by the farmers at no expense to the farm budget.

In fact, crashing world prices—down from about 27 cents a pound two years ago to less than 3 cents at times this year—have created an overspend of more than European Currency Units 400m over the past five years.

To balance the books, the Commissioners have proposed raising the producer levy on "A" sugar—the output quota equal to internal consumption levels—from the current 2.5 per cent to 3.5 per cent. For "B" sugar, the surplus production protected by guaranteed prices and export subsidies, the levy is to be raised from 37.5 per cent to 47 per cent.

Presuming they are approved by the Farm Council, these changes should claw back the overspending over the next five years.

The outcome of the debate within the Commission represents a slight softening of the tough proposals put by farm officials. These had sought a rise to 3 per cent for "A" quota sugar and 50 per cent on the levies for "B" sugar.

The debate in the Commission is also likely to be reflected when ministers meet to discuss the proposals after the holidays. While the British may favour abandonment of quotas for a price restraint system, the French favour a less rigorous approach to B quota output.

The starch proposal may also meet opposition in the council. Yesterday's decision means that production aid for starch used by the food industry will be phased out in three tranches over three years. The Commission claims that food manufacturers have no justification for support as the system was intended to protect them from uncompetitively high Community prices for products such as maize and other cereals.

As these are already supported by agricultural import levies, such aid was no longer needed, the argument goes. Nevertheless, the decision to phase out aid will be greeted with consternation by some manufacturers, particularly in the UK, where it is feared job losses will result.

For "unprotected" starch, used in industry for non-food purposes, the Commission is supported by the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), aid

will continue for a specific list of products.

Special premiums for potato starch—paid largely in the Netherlands to state-owned job losses in a highly vulnerable industry—are to continue at a rate reduced in phases from Ecu 18.7 per tonne to Ecu 12.7.

If the changes to both regimes are approved by ministers, they will be implemented from next July for sugar and from August 1986 for starch. Officials said last night, however, that several ministerial meetings may be necessary before the adaptations to the regimes are agreed.

The EEC yesterday authorised the export of 94,000 tonnes of white sugar at an export rebate of Ecu 45.19 per 100 kilos. It rejected all offers for raws.

The quantity was larger than exported, compensating for the below-average tonnage authorised last week. Farmer conditions on the international sugar market over the past few days have enabled the EEC management committee to drop the rebate below its self-imposed ceiling of Ecu 45.33.

London traders continued to complain yesterday of a squeeze on their depressed profit margins.

Prices remain at an extremely low level. But they have risen from historic lows paid in recent weeks as the market has digested Brazil's plans to cut back and defer exports this year. Rumours of poor growing conditions have been swirling, owing to drought have also provided support.

Problems hit Broken Hill lead output

By Andrew Gowers

LEAD OUTPUT from one of Australia's largest producers, Broken Hill Associated Smelters, will fall substantially short of target this year owing to what the company calls "technical and operational problems."

GHAS announced yesterday that production at its Port Pirie smelter will total 200,000 tonnes this year, 30,000 tonnes below planned output and 39,000 tonnes lower than the record production level achieved in 1982.

It said the problems were at the smelter itself, where difficulties with the blast furnace during June resulted in a loss of 10,000 tonnes of lead, and at the Broken Hill lead mine, where operations have been hampered by difficulties with ore grades. As a result, deliveries of lead concentrates to GHAS have been and will continue to be lower than anticipated, and the company will not be able to make good the previous 10,000 tonne shortfall.

The news caused a brief burst of short-covering on the London Metal Exchange yesterday, with prices rising about £7 a tonne in the morning. Traders said the metal's trading range had been heavily influenced by the announcement.

But analysts do not foresee any major rally in lead. Prices have been subdued for months, with production rising steadily, and they are likely to remain low. The actual decline in recent months. Reports that the large Hercules lead smelter in Missouri is about to reopen also indicate that any supply shortfalls in Australia will be partly made up elsewhere.

According to the latest metal review produced by LME traders Rudolf Wolff earlier this month, surplus inventories of September had started to rise, having steadily declined.

It added, however, that the deteriorating fundamental outlook for lead would partially correct itself later this year as the surplus is reduced in response to a shortage of concentrates.

Nancy Dunne on the protracted wrangle over farm policy U.S. reaps a harvest of discord

"POP...PIK...DIP..." they sound more like a breakfast cereal than a deliberative body," said Mr Bill Wilson of the U.S. Food Grains Council, who was observing the unavailing efforts of the Senate agriculture committee to produce a 1985 farm bill.

Pop, producer operating payments, Pik, payment-in-kind, and Dip, deficiency payments, or subsidies, the various formulas under consideration, are complex and controversial, and no one can say with certainty what the various schemes will cost.

Both congressional agriculture committees are still searching for an elusive consensus on how to achieve an impossible task: they want to save American agriculture and save money at the same time.

Meanwhile, the clock is ticking away. Farmers must decide what sort of winter wheat crop to plant, but without any final decision on the wheat price supports will be granted. The farm bill in both houses were due out of committee last week but it will be remarkable if they make it before the August recess.

Mr Donald Regan, the White House chief of staff, met on Monday with several of the farm state senators and emerged with uncharacteristic words of sympathy for the embattled legislators.

"Let's face it," he told reporters, "this is one of the most serious problems facing the country. We also know the

problem is getting worse." The Reagan Administration has now agreed to add \$50n to the \$20.5bn initially earmarked by the Senate for major crop subsidies over the next three years. However, the provisions the Senate agriculture committee have drafted so far are expected to cost about \$35bn and the House of Representatives may be even more generous.

The legislators may have "the year's dirtiest job in Congress," according to the Washington Post, but sympathy for them is by no means universal. One lobbyist, after a late night meeting with committee members concluded: "They have no answers at all. They will introduce anything that looks good on a press release."

One such release came from the office of Congressman Tony Coelho, the California Democrat last week. He has introduced an amendment, it announced, designed to address the problems of his arid farm constituents, which calls for a study on the impact of agricultural imports from Turkey and Iran on U.S. producers.

Congressman Coelho also sponsored an amendment to limit the President's power to impose a trade embargo on farm exports—a popular measure already addressed this year in the export administration act and three years ago in the Export-Import Act of 1980. The Commerce Committee has also passed a similar measure.

All the posturing and wrangling has produced some



Mr Donald Regan—uncharacteristic words of sympathy

progress. Both committees have agreed with the administration on a conservation plan which may take up to 20m acres of highly erodible cropland out of production for 10 years but the measures have some dissimilarities. Both committees have also agreed on dairy programmes, with even more differences.

The Senate committee approved a Bill which would freeze federal price supports at \$1.60 per cwt of dried milk, at least until 1987. It would then permit annual reductions if surpluses are so high that the Government still needs to buy up excessive amounts of milk to maintain prices. But,

unlike the House bill, it contains no provision to pay dairy farmers not to produce milk.

Both committees have legislation to strengthen U.S. export enhancement programmes, a concept called "food for progress" which would give commodities to countries trying to set up free market agricultural systems has gained popularity.

While both House and Senate committees seem resigned to granting the Administration the lower loan rates it has asked for "to make the U.S. competitive again," various formulas for income protection and a proposed wheat farmer referendum on mandatory production controls are still under consideration. However, none of these proposals will maintain income at current levels and "significant reductions" in the number of farmers can be expected, said a report released on Tuesday by the Corn Growers Association.

According to Mr. Gary Bailey, the corn growers' president, the best choice is for the Government to freeze income for at least three years so farmers will have a chance to cope with their problems. A following farm incomes to drop, he said, would mean more farm bankruptcies, stress on financial institutions, and dislocations on the rest of U.S. agriculture. Farm losses may drive up interest rates and boost unemployment by 500,000 the study said.

"You can either pay now or pay later," for federal programmes, Mr Bailey concluded.

American oil stocks down again

BY NANCY DUNNE IN WASHINGTON

U.S. STOCKS of oil products last week continued to fall behind last year, while, at the same time, the rate of increase of energy consumption slowed in the first six months of the year, according to the American Petroleum Institute (API).

In its report on energy stocks,

API estimated crude oil stocks last week at about 330.6m barrels, down almost 4.5m barrels from the previous week and almost 30m barrels below last year at this time.

API said that the rate of increase of energy consumption slowed last week to 107m barrels but are 980,000 behind last year,

and stocks of residual fuel oil hovered around the 41.7m barrel level, down 8.7m barrels from 1984.

Electric utilities and industrial users have been switching away from residual fuel oil, the API said.

Norway in dilemma over whaling ban

BY FAY GJETER IN OSLO

NORWAY'S GOVERNMENT appears to be split on the question of whether to accept, or oppose, last week's recommendation by the International Whaling Commission for a moratorium, next year, on hunting minke whales, one of the smaller members of the whale family. Under IWC rules, a Norwegian protest against the decision must be lodged within

in 90 days in order to exclude Norway from the ban. The Norwegian Trade Minister Mr Arne Synnes believes Oslo should bow to the ban, mainly because Norwegian exports could be seriously hit by environmentalist boycott campaigns.

Other considerations also favour complying. Mr Synnes adds, Norway will not be "taken

seriously," in the international community, if it accepts only these environmental and conservationist measures which suit its own interests, he said.

The Fisheries Ministry has hitherto advocated resisting any ban on whaling, which provides an important source of seasonal income for some small Norwegian coastal communities. Last week, however, Mr Thor

Listau, the Fisheries Minister, said that the Government should impose sanctions on Norwegian exports as a punishment for violation of the ban—something he believed was unlikely—then Norway would have to fall in line. Faced with the choice between maintaining exports or continued Norwegian exports to the U.S., the latter would have to come first, he conceded.

LONDON MARKETS

LONDON COFFEE futures bounced up yesterday following Tuesday's heavy decline. The September position regained \$104 of the previous day's \$134 fall at \$131.50—a leane after slipping further to \$124.90 in the morning. Dealers saw the rise as a technical reaction to an over-sold situation. The rally was given extra encouragement by active trade and speculation buying and weaker sterling against the dollar.

Incomplete statistics issued by the International Coffee Organisation at its meeting in London indicated a slight fall in purchases by importing members in the first six months of the year, to the end of May. Figures from 15 members, representing 80 per cent of consumption, totalled 25.54m bags (60 kilos each) against 30.47m in the same period a year earlier.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

In tonnes unless otherwise stated.

July 24 + or - Month

1986 - 1985

July 24 + or - Month

1986 - 1985

METALS

Aluminium

Copper

Gold

Silver

Tin

Zinc

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

Rubber

Peanut oil

Soyabean oil

Cocoa

Palm oil

Copra

Sunflower oil

Mustard oil

Castor oil

Tallow

Lard

Butter

Cheese

Eggs

Poultry

Fish

Honey

Milk

Yogurt

Ice cream

Sweets

Candy

Chocolate

Margarine

Shortening

Flour

Rice

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

Rubber

Peanut oil

Soyabean oil

Cocoa

Palm oil

Copra

Sunflower oil

Mustard oil

Castor oil

Tallow

Lard

Butter

Cheese

Eggs

Poultry

Fish

Honey

Milk

Yogurt

Ice cream

Sweets

Candy

Chocolate

Margarine

Shortening

Flour

Rice

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

Rubber

Peanut oil

Soyabean oil

Cocoa

Palm oil

Copra

Sunflower oil

Mustard oil

Castor oil

Tallow

Lard

Butter

Cheese

Eggs

Poultry

Fish

Honey

Milk

Yogurt

Ice cream

Sweets

Candy

Chocolate

Margarine

Shortening

Flour

Rice

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

Rubber

Peanut oil

Soyabean oil

Cocoa

Palm oil

Copra

Sunflower oil

Mustard oil

Castor oil

Tallow

Lard

Butter

Cheese

Eggs

Poultry

Fish

Honey

Milk

Yogurt

Ice cream

Sweets

Candy

Chocolate

Margarine

Shortening

Flour

Rice

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

Rubber

Peanut oil

Soyabean oil

Cocoa

Palm oil

Copra

Sunflower oil

Mustard oil

Castor oil

Tallow

Lard

Butter

Cheese

Eggs

Poultry

Fish

Honey

Milk

Yogurt

Ice cream

Sweets

Candy

Chocolate

Margarine

Shortening

Flour

Rice

Wheat

Barley

Soyabean

Cotton

Coffee

Sugar

Rice

Wool

Hides

Leather

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

FINANCIAL FUTURES

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains. The data are the mean values of three independent experiments. Error bars represent standard deviation.

Any enquiries with regard to the above arrangements should be addressed to the Royal Bank of Scotland plc, New Issues Department, 24 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9BA (Telephone 01-623 4356).

The fixing rates are the arithmetic means, rounded to the nearest one hundredth, of the bid offers for the currency in question by the market to five reference banks at 11 a.m. each working day. The banks are National Westminster Bank, Bank of Tokyo, Deutsche Bank, Banque Nationale de Paris and Citibank.		Treasury Bonds	
Three year	100%	Two year	98 1/2%
Three year	101 1/2%	Three year	101 1/2%
Five year	102 1/2%	Five year	102 1/2%
Seven year	103 1/2%	Seven year	103 1/2%
10 year	104 1/2%	10 year	104 1/2%
30 year	106 1/2%	30 year	106 1/2%

Arch. 12 th Apr 1985	100%	12.23	11.46
Arch. 11 th Apr '86	100%	11.75	11.33
Reg. 10 th Apr 1986	99.2	10.06	11.11

Line	Item	Unit	Price	Quantity	Total
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1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.

BUILDING, TIMBER, ROADS | DRAPERY & STORES—Cont.

200	Do. Non Vts.	448	6.4	2.3	2.1	20.5	165	148	Admest Group	152	6.7	2.2	6.3	10.0
211	Limited Inc \$0.50	418	0.5	—	—	—	430	332	Ash & Lacy	332	20.0	1.6	8.6	10.0

283	227	Community Grades 10	240			14.0	11.7	0.8	11.7
285	242	Lakewood 10	259	+1		10.0	1.6	5.5	15.7
402	342	Los Park Hometr.	395			97.38	11	27.5	
185	974	Midsummer Inn 11	1000			102.5	3.5	1.7	26.0
75	75	Mt. Charlotte 10	87	+13		17.2	3.5	2.0	16.0
28	19	Northwest Capital 10	119			102.5	1.6	1.8	58.3
119	100	Northwest Hotels 500	1002			6.2	4.2	3.1	0.5
115	99	Prince of Wales	302			1.9	3.3	2.1	16.0
59	49	Queen Mary 50	49			1.53	2.2	1.2	13.7
119	103	St. Joseph, Ft. G.	2033			7%		53	

130	17	Johnson & Mifflin	199		9.5	1.7	74	10.0
232	83	Do. Div.	115					10.0
96	71	Law & Hahn, Grp.	209					14.2
115	67	Laborers Indus.	106		55.36	1.8	92	6.0
282	157	Law & Sonnet Sds.	225	-1				6.0
100	85	LECO Group	100		16.0	4.0	4.0	6.0
306	22	MTI Amer. Ibp.	26		1.0	3.1	43	10.6
198	126	MT Crdys. Pk. Zps.	184		0.75	2.7	53	22.4
150	87	Mechanical Co.	120	+2	0.75	2.7	53	22.4
41	34	Microwave TP & Wt. Zps.	62		62.36	1.6	26	19.9
67	46	Morgenthal Group	61		1.7	2.3	53	6.5

MINES—Continued

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RECENT ISSUES

Uninspiring session closes with equities steadier

Gilts consolidate recent gains

(243)	280	15	23	28	23	37	50		12801	—	4	10	—	—	122	198
	280	6	15	30	40	43	45		July 24 Total Contracts* 6,412. Calls 5,856. Puts 556							
	285	4	8	—	50	55	—		* Underlying security price							

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OVERSEAS MARKETS

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE COMPOSITE PRICES

[illegible]

Continued on Page 2

Prices at 3pm, July 24[illegible]

Continued on Page 27

FINANCIAL TIMES

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

WALL STREET

Rate fears cast shadow of concern

THE SHADOW of major selling programmes at several brokerage houses fell over Wall Street yesterday, bringing further losses in technology, airline and other sectors, writes Terry Byland in New York.

Concern over the outlook for interest rates brought renewed selling of utilities, insurance and other rate-sensitive stocks, as well as keeping bond prices subdued.

The trading session opened quietly but prices turned sharply down at noon when a significant fall in IBM led the technology sector lower. Disappointing corporate results weakened some consumer stocks.

At 3pm the Dow Jones industrial average was down 9.53 at 1,342.18.

The sharp upturn in durable goods orders in June has raised fears that interest rates may move higher. Bond prices have now fallen by nearly 3 per cent since Mr Paul Volcker's message to Congress discouraged hopes that the Fed might shortly ease credit policy.

Casualties among the insurance groups included Chubb, which continued to plunge, shedding \$2½ to \$68½ despite the increased profits reported for the second quarter. General Reinsurance tumbled \$3½ to \$63½, and other insurers hit by the wave of interest rate nervous-

ness included St Paul, \$3½ down at \$83½, and Ohio Casualty, \$1½ down at \$24.

Scattered selling of utilities brought falls of \$½ to \$2¼ in Southern California Edison, and \$½ to \$29½ in Pacific Gas & Electric.

In the airlines, United turned sharply down after upsetting the stock market with a new fare structure which was interpreted as a further indication of competitive pressures on domestic routes. At \$54½, United stock was \$1½ down.

American, also strongly entrenched in the domestic carrier market, fell \$1½ to \$47½, and Delta at \$49½ shed \$½. Pan Am gave up \$½ to \$67½.

After a quiet start, IBM ran into renewed selling pressure, which took the stock down by \$1½ to \$128 and reversed early gains elsewhere in the technology sector. Honeywell at \$84½ gave up \$1½, and Digital Equipment fell \$1½ to \$101½.

The Detroit motor stocks, although discouraged by the second-quarter results from General Motors, lay idle. Ford, also due to report results, added \$½ to \$43½.

Poor figures from Du Pont completed the discomfiture of the chemical stocks. At \$59½, Du Pont fell \$½, while Monsanto added \$½ to \$53½. The rally in Union Carbide following recommendation from a leading brokerage house, was smartly reversed, leaving the stock \$1½ down at \$50½.

A weak feature was Litton Industries, down \$3½ at \$79½ after a broking house sharply reduced its estimate of 1986 earnings.

Disappointing second-quarter figures from General Foods, \$1½ lower at \$77½, and Gerber Products, \$1½ off at \$35, upset food stocks. Brewing stocks were hit by a fall of \$1½ to \$32½ in Anheuser-Busch, Brewer of Budweiser beer, after news of lacklustre profits.

Other consumer-oriented stocks to ease on results were Koger, \$½ off at \$22½ and Revlon, \$½ easier at \$41½. But Hoover, the vacuum cleaner company, edged up \$½ to \$28 on the results.

Lower profits in the manufacturing sector left Tenneco, \$½ up at \$41½, and Goodyear Tire, \$½ off at \$28. Oil stocks remained subdued as earnings reports from the leaders were digested. Sun eased \$½ to \$46½ despite higher profits and Mesa Petroleum, Mr T. Boone Pickens' company, dipped \$½ to \$14½, also after results.

Credit markets drew little benefit from an easier federal funds rate, which settled at 7½ per cent at mid-session. Short-term market rates remained just below overnight levels.

Bond prices opened with small losses and remained unsupported during the first half of the session. While views of the outlook for rates are still widely split, a more bearish consensus appears to be developing.

An easing in Federal Reserve policies appears less likely and, if the economy is gathering strength, interest rates may be forced higher. The bond market has failed to break out of the top end of its recent range, and prices seem to be marking time, with only the professional traders appearing in the market.

TOKYO

Extended sojourn on sidelines

BUDGET-RELATED stocks and banks were hunted actively toward the close, sending prices slightly higher in Tokyo yesterday, writes Shigeo Nishiwaki of Niji Press.

The Nikkei-Dow market average gained 14.20 to 12,777.03. Volume totalled 446m shares compared with Tuesday's 482m. Falls outpaced rises by 474 to 343 with 132 issues unchanged.

Investors continued to be concerned about high price levels for issues related to the Government's fiscal investments and loans programme. Leading biotechnology-related issues were burdened with high margin debts, and blue chips suffered from slackening semiconductor demand and Japan-U.S. trade friction. Investors were uncertain about the market direction and tended to stay on the sidelines.

On the trading floor, banks, were bought briskly on speculation that about 10 banking issues would be newly designated as stocks for Tokyo Stock Exchange margin trading by the end of this week.

There were indications that four lower-ranking city banks, including Daiwa Bank, and three trust banks, including Sumitomo Trust and Banking, could be selected as stocks eligible for margin trading, along with three or four regional banks.

Daiwa Bank added ¥55 to ¥790, Sumitomo Trust and Banking ¥90 to ¥1,510 and Bank of Yokohama ¥83 to ¥1,080.

All Nippon Airways, which is expected to be designated as stock for margin trading, topped the most active list with 21.35m shares traded, jumping ¥24 to ¥760.

After a weak start, issues related to the fiscal investments and loans programme regained strong buying interest. Kajima Corporation, second most active with 15.62m, rose ¥29 to ¥430, and Ohbayashi Corporation, third busiest with 15.06m shares traded, advanced ¥11 to ¥387. Wakachiku Construction, ninth with 6.13m shares, gained ¥30 to ¥358, and Toyo Construction, tenth with 6.06m shares, added ¥27 to ¥418.

Biotechnology-related stocks performed poorly, with Kaken Pharmaceutical losing ¥80 to ¥2,090 and Mochida Pharmaceutical down ¥280 to ¥1,140.

Among blue chips, TDK shed ¥140 to ¥3,910, Sony lost ¥40 to ¥3,710 and Olympus ¥30 to ¥1,000. But Hitachi closed ¥15 higher at ¥7,000 and Fujitsu advanced ¥10 to ¥885.

Bond prices plunged, dampened by increased selling by securities houses. The yield on 6.8 per cent government bonds, maturing in December 1994, rose sharply to 6.310 per cent from 6.280 per cent on the previous day.

AUSTRALIA

RECORD highs were again seen in Sydney, buoyed by strong foreign interest, especially in gold miners.

The All Ordinaries index added 2 to a new peak of 935.7.

Gold stocks to rise included GMK, up 30 cents to A\$10.00, Central Norseman 40 cents to A\$9.00, Kidston 10 cents to A\$4.75, Placer 50 cents to A\$25.50 and Poseidon 15 cents to A\$3.65.

Among banks, National Australia added 9 cents to A\$4.70, Westpac remained unchanged at A\$4.90 and ANZ rose 6 cents to A\$5.32.

See Lex, Page 10

SOUTH AFRICA

OVERSEAS investors continued to remain away from Johannesburg and this, coupled with a weaker bullion price, sent prices sharply lower.

France announced plans to withdraw its ambassador from South Africa and freeze all new investment there as a result of the declaration by Pretoria of a state of emergency.

Randfontein lost 10 cents to R182, Kloof R4.75 to R70 and Harties 60 cents to R8.00.

EUROPE

Return of resilient undertone

A FIRMER tone surfaced on most European bourses yesterday although German and Italian exchanges were preoccupied with currency rates and the prospects of new local taxes, respectively.

Amsterdam felt it judicious to ignore Wall Street's overnight failure to scale new heights and instead concentrated on domestic factors. The ANP-CBS General index rose 1.0 to 219.1 as some of the recently mauled international re-bounded and the dollar showed signs of recovery in Europe.

Alko finished at a 1985 high of F1 122.80 with its F1 2.50 surge while Unilever bounced back with a F1 4 rise to F1 351.

Foreign demand was evident again for Hoogovens as the support provided by West German buyers persisted and was extended to include Swiss investors. The steel group, which also benefited from a Dutch bank forecast on earnings moved closer to its high for the year with a F1 1.80 advance to F1 67.40.

Among publishers, Elsevier traded 70 cents higher to F1 130 and VNU added F1 1 to F1 213.

Boskalis Westminster moved against the trend but still held above the F1 20 level with its 10-cent decline to F1 20.20.

KLM's board optimism failed to find support in the market and the airline moved from its 1985 peak with a F1 1.80 fall to F1 62.20.

Financials were active with ABN down F1 3 to F1 501 ex-rights while the rights issue was traded at F1 6. Amro firmed 20 cents to F1 88.30 just below its high for the year. Insurer Amey weakened F1 1.30 to F1 275 although Nat-Ned added to Tuesday's rise with a further 80-cent gain to F1 76.50.

Bonds remained lethargic.

Oil and chemical issues featured again in a higher Brussels. Petrofina, thinly traded in the previous session, was actively dealt but the industrial group finished the day unchanged at Bfr 5,610. U.S. support was detected for Solvay which firmed a further Bfr 60 to Bfr 4,525 and UCB gained Bfr 40 to Bfr 5,020.

Wagons Lits shed all of Tuesday's strength with its Bfr 70 retreat to Bfr 2,980, while retailer GB-Inno-BM picked up Bfr 15 to Bfr 3,715.

Banks and insurers encountered only mild gains in a broadly higher Zurich that was at first reluctant to shrug off New York's overnight performance. However, the domestic corporate reporting season eventually focused investor concentration on the underlying strength of many Swiss shares.

Nestlé bristled with a SwFr 235 rise to SwFr 6,723, while retailer Jelmolli scored a proportionally more rewarding SwFr 230 jump to SwFr 2,750, a new high for the year.

Swiss Bank gained SwFr 1 to SwFr 485 while Union Bank managed another SwFr 40 gain to SwFr 4,390, a new 1985 high, on further consideration of its results. Zurich Insurance dipped SwFr 50 to SwFr 25,450.

Technical factors induced a cautious session in Paris as oil stocks continued weaker. Elf-Aquitaine hit another low for the year with a FFf 2.50 drop to FFf 185 although Total recovered FFf 1 from its low for the year to finish at FFf 208.

Elsewhere, Roussel Uclaf surrendered FFf 55 to FFf 1,540, BSN shed FFf 60 to FFf 2,240, although Skis Rossignol advanced FFf 39 to FFf 1,419.

Exchange rate factors unsettled Frankfurt as export oriented sectors suffered another bruising day. The Commerzbank index slipped 2.3 points to 1,403.5.

Chemical, car and banking issues suffered the most although utilities proved mixed with RWE one of the few shares to rise during the session with a DM 1.50 gain to DM 179.50.

Bond prices advanced to up to 35 basis points in moderately active trading amid signals that domestic interest rates will decline.

The Bundesbank sold DM 12m in paper compared with Tuesday's DM 4.5m sales.

Milan reversed some of its recent gains on rekindled reports that the Finance Ministry is to introduce a special inheritance tax. Ministry officials have denied any such plans.

Fiat fell L34 to L4,084 while Montedison dipped L5 to L2,045. Elsewhere, insurers and banks eased.

Madrid tended higher and Stockholm recovered to finish little changed on balance.

CANADA

AFTER a 20-point slide on Tuesday, prices in Toronto started higher but proceeded to lose some of their early gains to trade mostly mixed.

Among actives, Inco lost C\$½ to C\$19½, International Thomson gained C\$1½ to C\$39½ and Cominco rose C\$½ to C\$12½.

In Montreal, banks, industrials and utilities all showed gains.

LONDON

Low profile ahead of ICI result

INVESTORS maintained a low profile in London yesterday and the FT Ordinary share index made slow progress to close 4.9 higher at 928.0. Movements rarely exceeded one penny either way.

Bereft of indicators on the current trend of corporate profits, traders were content to await the key statement expected today from market leader ICI. Estimates of the group's earnings have been downgraded recently because of exchange rate fluctuations.

Activity in gilts was uninspired and prices often eased back from Tuesday's enhanced levels.

The index-linked sector was more interesting, however. Following a sizeable overseas buying order, the supply of the tablet Treasury 2½ per cent 2013 was exhausted at a price of 85½. This encouraged business and several index-linked issues closed with rises of ¼.

Chief price changes, Page 27; Details, Page 26; Share information service, Pages 24-25

HONG KONG

BARGAIN hunting brought prices up from their lows of the day in Hong Kong but most ended lower on the day as the technical adjustment continued.

Property issues suffered the most substantial losses with Hongkong Land off 5 cents at HK\$6.45, Cheung Kong 30 cents lower at HK\$17.90 and Sun Hung Kai Properties 10 cents off at HK\$13.20.

Banks remained under pressure from falling local interest rates. Hang Seng Bank eased 25 cents to HK\$45.25, Hongkong Bank was unchanged at HK\$7.55 while Bank of East Asia rose 30 cents to HK\$22.30 ahead of its interim results.

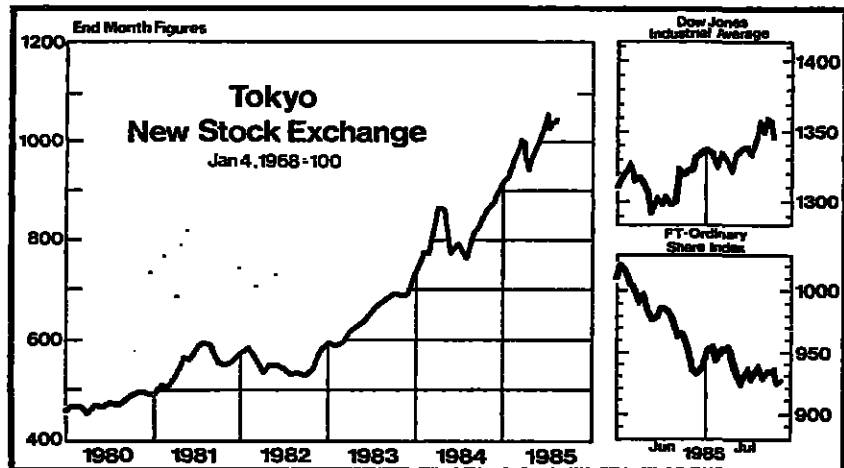
SINGAPORE

PROFIT-TAKING took Singapore lower after seven successive sessions of gains. The Straits Times industrial index shed 3.98 to 774.73.

Pahang Investment continued to attract interest, trading 2.7m shares before closing unchanged at \$4.55.

Elsewhere, Keppel lost 4 cents to S\$1.35, Pan-Electric 6 cents to S\$2.25, New Straits Times 10 cents to S\$7.00 and Sime Darby 5 cents to S\$1.84.

KEY MARKET MONITORS



STOCK MARKET INDICES				
	July 24	Previous	Year ago	
NEW YORK				
DJ Industrials	1,342.18	1,351.81	1,086.57	
DJ Transport	685.16	698.27	445.16	
DJ Utilities	157.42	159.26	123.60	
S&P Composite	190.70	192.55	147.82	
LONDON				
FT Ord	928.0	921.1	770.2	
FT-SE 100	1,238.2	1,233.1	880.6	
FT-A All-share	596.93	595.12	456.78	
FT-A 500	648.78	647.66	502.88	
FT Gold mines	369.3	366.7	770.2	
FT-A Long gilt	10.17	10.16	11.35	

TOKYO			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Nikkei-Dow	12,777.03	12,762.83	9,738.00
Tokyo SE	1,050.00	1,042.10	749.67

AUSTRALIA			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
All Ord.	935.7	933.8	671.5
Metals & Mins.	545.7	546.1	404.9

AUSTRIA			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Credit Aktien	99.57	100.01	53.6

BELGIUM			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Belgian SE	2,314.89	2,313.61	—

CANADA			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Toronto	2,043.2	2,030.19	1,652.0
Metals & Mins.	2,772.0	2,777.9	2,079.7
Montreal	137.37	137.56	100.36

DENMARK			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
SE	n/a	211.35	186.14

FRANCE			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
CAC Gen	218.3	217.9	159.8
Ind. Tendance	124.90	124.70	84.38

WEST GERMANY			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
FAZ-Aktien	477.65	477.87	320.10
Commerzbank	1,403.5	1,405.8	926.2

HONG KONG			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Hang Seng	1,685.63	1,673.85	754.75

ITALY			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Banca Com.	351.09	359.03	207.56

NETHERLANDS			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
ANP-CBS Gen	218.1	218.1	146.8
ANP-CBS Ind	186.4	185.9	119.1

NORWAY			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Oslø SE	n/a	346.8	247.3

SINGAPORE			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Straits Times	774.73	778.69	667.75

SOUTH AFRICA			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
JSE Golds	—	926.0	895.3
JSE Industrials	—	1,010.8	847.3

SPAIN			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Madrid SE	110.21	108.34	91.55

SWEDEN			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
J & P	1,355.00	1,351.99	1,465.82

SWITZERLAND			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Swiss Bank Ind	468.5	461.8	356.9

WORLD			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
Capital Int'l	221.8	221.9	165.1

GOLD (per ounce)			
	July 24	Previous	Year ago
London	\$318.25	\$322.00	\$322.00
Zurich	\$318.00	\$321.60	\$321.60
Paris (filing)	\$319.48	\$323.05	\$323.05
Luxembourg	\$318.70	\$323.00	\$323.00
New York (Aug)	\$319.30	\$318.30	\$318.30

* Latest available figure

FINANCIAL TIMES

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